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College and School News

Miss Leola Anderson

Miss Leola M. Anderson, a 17-year-old senior of the Roosevelt High school, Gary, Indiana, and valedictorian of the class of 1945, was one of the six Indiana high-school students who received honorable mention in the fourth annual "science talent search" of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company.

Mrs. Katherine Ross Huff, wife of Atty. William Henry Huff, was awarded the master of education degree by the Chicago Teachers College in January. Prior to entering Teachers College, Mrs. Huff was graduated from Dakota Wesleyan University, Mitchell, South Dakota.

Two recent additions to the staff of the UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND are Randall L. Tyus and Stanley Roberts. Mr. Tyus is alumni secretary of Fisk University and has been granted a four-month leave of absence to accept the appointment as field secretary during the second annual spring College Fund campaign. He will serve as field organizer in various campaign cities throughout the country. Mr. Roberts, formerly Ohio branch office manager of *The Pittsburgh Courier*, has been appointed director of public relations.

MANHATTANVILLE, College of the Sacred Heart, sponsored during the week of March 4-11 an observance of the first National Interracial Justice Week. Over 50,000 Catholic college students representing 103 institutions in all sections of the country took part. In the East, the Week was inaugurated by a panel discussion held at Manhattanville, Convent Avenue and 133rd St., New York City. Panel speakers were Roy Wilkins of the NAACP; Dr. Hudson J. Oliver, former president of the Catholic Laymen's Union; Miss Margaret McCormack, staff writer of the Center of Information Pro Deo; and George K. Hunton, editor of the *Interracial Review*.

CLARK COLLEGE's twenty-sixth anniversary Founder's Day address was delivered by Dr. Hazen G. Warner, pastor of Grace Methodist church, Dayton, Ohio.

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SHAW UNIVERSITY campaign workers at their second report-meeting reported $19,765 collected from Raleigh colored citizens. The reports showed a total of 170 subscriptions. Leader in the special gifts committee was Dr. L. E. McCauley, chairman, with $3,350. J. W. Yeargin, with $1,875, was second, and A. T. White third with $1,480.

From January 28 to February 4, Dr. Luther P. Jackson, professor of history and chairman of the unit of social sciences at VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE, gave a series of nineteen lectures in Alabama, Georgia, and Kentucky. He was chosen by Dr. F. D. Patterson of Tuskegee as the first speaker on the Carnaham lecture series. Dr. Jackson's lectures were devoted to the citizenship obligations of Negroes with reference to voting. In addition to college groups, Dr. Jackson spoke before three adult groups.

PRAIRIE VIEW COLLEGE presented Emanuel Middleton, baritone, in a recital in February as a part of the scheduled artist series of the college.

Dr. Will W. Alexander, vice-president of the Julius Rosenwald Fund delivered a series of lectures at the ATLANTA SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK February 15-20 on "The Origin and Function of Interracial Organizations Past and Present."

Mrs. Cenorio D. Johnson, a 1945 graduate of the school of social work and a native Oklahoman, was recently named executive secretary of the Fort Worth Texas Urban League. Another student of the school to receive an appointment is Thomas J. Flanagan, Jr., a native of Atlanta, Ga. Mr. Flanagan has been appointed federal recreation counselor to direct the recreation program of the Bahamian workers in eight states.

ATLANTA UNIVERSITY has announced that $1,400 in cash purchase awards is being offered to Negro artists and sculptors who participate in the Fourth Annual Exhibition of Paintings, Sculpture, and Prints to be held on the school campus April 1-29. Eleven awards, topped by a special prize of $300, will be offered for the best oil paintings, water colors, sculpture, and prints entered. All of the works purchased will be added to Atlanta University's growing collection of art, considered one of the finest in the South.

Purpose of the exhibit, according to President Rufus E. Clement of the university, is fivefold: (1) to encourage Negro artists to achieve as high a standard of work as possible; (2) to present the best creative works

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The Jerome Bowers Peterson Collection of photographs of celebrated Negroes opened in the foyer of the university library January 22. The seventy-seven photographs, character studies of famous Negroes by Carl Van Vechten, were loaned to the university by the Wadleigh High school of New York City. Peterson, for whom the collection is named, was for years an editorial writer on the *New York Age*.

Recent recitals at SPELMAN were those of Miss Ellabelle Davis, young Negro soprano, and Miss Majorie Moffett in her one-woman theatre. Roland Hayes gave a recital at Atlanta university.

Recent speakers in the university system have been Dr. Otto Klineberg of Columbia university, Mrs. Grace Sloan Overton, Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen, Ely Culbertson, and Dr. Will W. Alexander. Dr. Alexander delivered the seventy-eighth anniversary address of MOREHOUSE COLLEGE.

DELAWARE STATE COLLEGE celebrated Negro History Week with a library exhibit built around the theme, "What do you know about your Race?" and addresses by Dr. Howard D. Gregg, I. W. E. Taylor, and Miss Elsie McIntosh. Mrs. Evelyn Easterly sponsored a program by the Senate.

One of the popular courses at the college is "Marriage and the Family," conducted by Mrs. Ruth M. Laws.

A group of Delaware extension specialists and a visiting specialist from Venezuela, South America, were guests of the home economics and agriculture departments in February.

Dr. Rufus E. Clement, president of Atlanta university, was principal speaker at DILLARD UNIVERSITY during Negro History Week.

The SAMUEL HUSTON COLLEGE 1945 artist series opened March 4 with the appearance of Kenneth Spencer, bass soloist, in the Wesley Methodist church.

Chapters of Zeta Phi Beta sorority celebrated "Finer Womanhood Week" in February with a program at Tillotson college and a sermon by Dr. Homer P. Rainey at the Greater Mt. Zion Baptist church.

Captain Hubert B. Jones was a guest speaker at the college in February. Kofi Amartey, a native African, was principal speaker during Negro History Week.

Ten students, four sophomores and six freshment were on the honor roll at MORRISTOWN COLLEGE at the end of the first semester.

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The Third Christian Adventure Institute and Joint Assembly of Lay Workers is tentatively scheduled to meet at the college June 18-24. The workshop is under the auspices of the East Tennessee Conference Board of Lay Activities and the Woman's Society of Christian Service.

United States Senator Harley M. Kilgore will deliver the commencement address at West Virginia State College on May 27, 1945. President John W. Davis has announced that there will be approximately one hundred prospective candidates for graduation.

On February 11 state officials, alumni, faculty, and friends met in an educational conference and banquet in honor of President John W. Davis for his twenty-five years' administration of the college. A special feature of the celebration was a conference on financing higher education participated in by members of the state board of education, public works, presidents of state colleges, and prominent citizens.

As a main feature of Negro History Week, the department of history of the college, headed by Professor L. L. McKenzie, in collaboration with the departments of art, physical education, music, English, drama, and home economics presented "The Cavalcade of Negro History," a chronicle of events of Negro achievement.

Hampton Institute celebrated Negro History Week with a series of events climaxed with an address by Dr. Henry J. McGuinn, professor of sociology at Virginia Union University. Sponsored by the Negro History Society of the college, the observance opened with a program by trainees of the U. S. Naval School on the campus, and was followed with the annual "Know-the-Negro" quiz in Ogden Hall, showing of the film "The Negro Soldier," and Negro history tag day.

Lt. Leroy S. Gaillard, a 1943 graduate of Hampton, has returned to the campus as assistant professor of military science and

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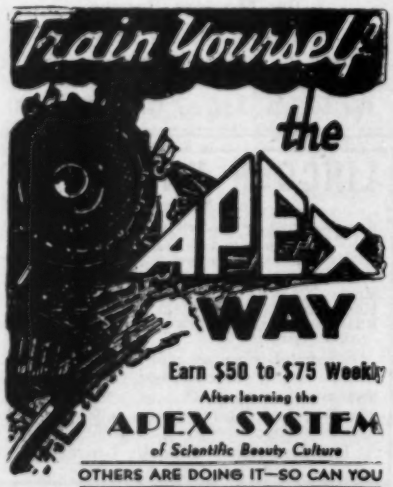

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tactics in the ROTC unit. He succeeds Lt. Napoleon Johnson, who has been assigned to Indiantown Gap, Pa.

Dr. Viktor Lowenfeld, head of the art department, addressed the students and faculty of Penn State College in February, where he attended an art conference and participated in a panel discussion of art. On March 8 he served on the jury judging the school art exhibit in Richmond, Va., and on March 30 he addressed the North Carolina Teachers Association in Raleigh, N. C.

"Night Must Fall," a production of the Communications Theatre at the college was presented in Ogden Hall in March. The play was directed by Miss Mary Wildhack, instructor of dramatics in the Communications Center.

A preliminary announcement of offerings in the 1945 Summer School at Hampton has just been published at the college and is available upon request to the Summer School, according to William M. Cooper, director.

John M. Mitchell, field agent for the extension service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, left his headquarters at the college February 26 for a visit to twelve southern states where he held conferences with state directors of extension service and Negro state leaders. He concluded his trip April 4 with a staff conference in Washington, D. C.

Enrollment at LINCOLN UNIVERSITY (Mo.) has increased in all departments. Charles H. Bynum of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis was a recent visitor at the college.

Second annual meeting of the School for Town and Country Ministers was held at the college March 12-24. The school was conducted in cooperation with the National Home Missions Council of North America.

A display of twenty-seven oil paintings, water colors, and lithographs by J. D. Parks, head of the art department at the college, was on display in the Jefferson City library in February. The exhibit was sponsored by the Jefferson City Art Club.

The annual high school basketball tournament was held at Lincoln March 9-10.

Heading the twenty honor-roll students at MORRIS COLLEGE are Amelia Boykin and Mable Gandy.

At ALABAMA STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE fifty-five students are listed on the honor roll with an average of 2.0 or above. Two of these, Miss Evelyn Combs of Camp Hill, Ala., and Miss Josephine Gordon, of Florence, Ala., both seniors, made the average of 3.0.

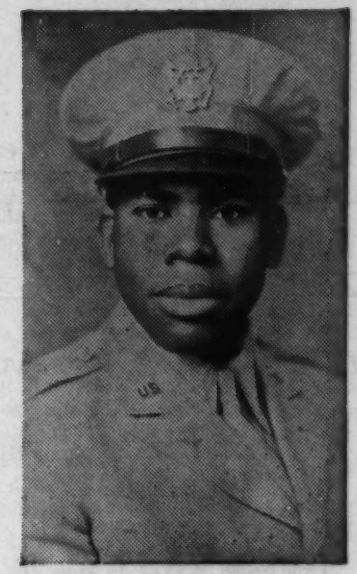
January, 1945, issue of *The Tougaloo News*, published at TOUGALOO COLLEGE, is a special faculty number outlining the present and the future of the college with contributions by Reuben S. Turner, Lionel B. Fraser, Raymond E. Lee, L. Zenobia Coleman, Louis M. Burns, Florence M. Brumback, and Rev. W. A. Bender.

The Cheyney Record of the CHEYNEY STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE recently won the first award in the 1944 Pennsylvania School Press Association annual contest. It received first place among the teachers' college publications.

Dr. Leslie P. Hill's poem "Of Greatness in Teaching," has appeared in the December, 1944, issue of both the *Teacher Education Journal* and the *Pennsylvania School Journal*.

Four research articles by three NORTH CAROLINA COLLEGE professors appeared in national scholarly publications during the last quarter of 1944: "Improving Racial Attitudes Through Children's Books," by Mrs. Dorothy Shepard Manley, in the *Elementary English Journal;* "Humanities vs. War" and "The Negro Population of Guilford County, N. C., before the Civil War," by Dr. W. Edward Farrison, the first in *Phylon* and the second in the *North Carolina Historical Review;* and "The Enslavement of Free Negroes in North Carolina," by Dr. John Hope Franklin, in the *Journal of Negro History*.

Dr. Franklin was a recent speaker at the University of Michigan on the subject of "The Negro in Post-War Readjustment: A Historical View."



Major Hildrus Poindexter

Major Hildrus A. Poindexter, professor and head of the department of bacteriology and public health in the HOWARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in support of military operations against the enemy in the Southwest Pacific area. From June 15, 1944, to October 30, 1944, Major Poindexter acted in the capacity of an infantry division malariologist.

Miss Bernice M. Scott, R.N., lectured at KNOXVILLE COLLEGE on health March 5-10.

Langston Hughes, poet, and Clyde Winkfield, musician, were featured guests in celebration of Negro History Week.

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A Record of the Darker Races

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Vol. 52, No. 4 Whole Number 412

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First Negro WAVES to enter the Hospital Corps School at the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md. Left to right they are Ruth C. Isaacs, Katherine Horton, and Inez Patterson.

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THE CRISIS *was founded in 1910 and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York 3, N. Y., by The Crisis Publishing Co., Inc., Dr. Louis T. Wright, president; Walter White, secretary; and Mrs. Lillian A. Alexander, treasurer. The subscription price is $1.50 a year or 15 cents a copy. Foreign subscriptions $1.75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscription may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care, it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.*

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NEXT MONTH

In addition to our usual features we plan to carry a very interesting article by J. Antonio Jarvis on the history and problems of the Virgin Islands. Claude A. Barnett will have an article on the racial situation in Denver, Colorado; and George Clifton Edwards, a white attorney of Texas, will give his views of Negro progress in relation to white justice. We also plan to carry another one of Ann Petry's brilliant short stories.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Miss Julia E. Baxter is in charge of research and information for the NAACP. Ben Burns is on the staff of the *Chicago Defender* and writes a weekly column for that paper called "Off the Book Shelf." Chester B. Himes is already well-known to *Crisis* readers. He is now living in New York and hard at work on his forthcoming novel. John F. Matheus, who translated André Spire's *Tu diras* on page 104, is head of the department of romance languages at West Virginia State College, Institute, West Virginia. George Padmore lives in London and is a frequent contributor to the American Negro press. He is an outstanding authority on African colonial problems.

Editorials

THE NEGRO SOLDIER BETRAYED

THE Truman K. Gibson report on the 92d Division in Italy marks a betrayal of the Negro soldier in this war. For Mr. Gibson, wittingly or unwittingly, has carried the ball for a War department policy on Negroes that was certain to result in the confusion now evident in Italy.

That policy has been (a) that the army is not concerned with the race problem but with training soldiers; (b) that combat services of Negroes should be restricted and most Negroes placed in service and work units; (c) that Negro officers shall be held to junior ranks and in no case promoted to where they will outrank and command white officers or troops; (d) that while segregation is not the "official" policy of the army, it shall be left largely to individual commanders.

After so-called "disappointing" reports had come on the performance of the 92d division, Mr. Gibson was sent over in his capacity as civilian aide to the Secretary of War to make an investigation. He called a press conference of correspondents in Rome March 14 and on March 15 the principal daily papers in America carried stories saying Mr. Gibson had declared (a) whole platoons of the 92d had "melted away" in the face of danger; (b) the performance of the 92d presented a "dismal picture" and that this was due to the fact that the division has 92% illiterates or semi-illiterates, plus the fact that it was given inadequate training before being placed in the front-line; (c) a large percentage of 92d officers killed was Negro, and that their deaths "reflected more credit on their courage than their judgment."

In passing, according to the New York *Herald Tribune*, Mr. Gibson remarked upon the block system of promotions for Negro officers being "unfair to individuals," and also upon the officers' club for "white only." The *Herald Tribune* writer thus sets down his impressions of the remarks on segregation:

"A mixture of white and Negro officers in the same units causes some hard feelings because . . . separate officers' clubs develop and incidents of race prejudice *tend to be exaggerated.*" (Italics ours).

Milton Bracker of the New York *Times* says Mr. Gibson's appraisal "must be taken most seriously because he is the official representative of the War department and is a Negro."

That completes the picture. The policy was instituted and allowed to work toward the accomplishment of a desired result, namely, the plain indication that Negroes, as a whole, are unsatisfactory as combat soldiers. The final touch of artistry was to have a Negro spokesman place his observations into the record.

IF THE 92d Division is made up of 92% illiterates and near-illiterates, whose fault is it? Certainly not the Negro's. The War department knew the type of men who went into the 92d. It knew the commanding officers. It must have known that the 92d, when it was slated for the Italian front, was to be the "test" of the Negro soldier in combat. Why would the War department, if it really wanted to give a fair test, send a division into the front-line with 92 out of every 100 men in the two lowest classifications in the army? The 92d was licked before it started. Its men were betrayed, not in Italy, but in Washington even as they trained under the Alabama sun at Ft. McClellan and on the sloping mountains of Arizona at Ft. Huachuca.

But the cards were not stacked against them solely because the army placed Phi Beta Kappas and college and high school graduates in trucking companies, quartermaster outfits and other service units. The treatment they received from their white officers and the whole atmosphere in which the Negro soldier was trained constituted a major factor in the situation.

You cannot separate a man from his fellows at the induction center, train him in a separate unit, send him, even, to a separate all-Negro isolated training post (Fort Huachuca, Arizona), humiliate him with all manner of little differentiations and then expect one day that he will "join the team" after a little pep talk and give a superlative performance. It must be remembered that these men were beaten up by bus drivers, shot up by military and civilian police, insulted by their white officers, denied transportation to and from the post, restricted to certain post exchanges, and jim-crowed in post theaters. Everywhere they turned there was a rule for a white and a rule for black. At Fort Huachuca they saw their Negro commissioned officers denied admission to the officers' club and shunted to a "Negro" officers' club. They took orders from a Dixie-born general who had his own conception of the place of the Negro as a man, a citizen, a soldier.

No one knows (unless a transcript was made) all that was said in the Rome interview. The paragraph quoted above from the *Herald Tribune* suggests that Mr. Gibson brushed aside, or even offered an apology for the "sensitiveness" of Negroes on segregation and prejudice. The *Journal and Guide* correspondent, friendly and cooperative, stressed that Mr. Gibson had praised Gen. E. M. Allmond, and defended the white officers of the division and the War department. The CRISIS does not believe that Mr. Gibson would deliberately cast slurs on our soldiers. The righteous resentment of Negro citizens must not be misdirected and wasted against him.

THE fight is to make the War department realize that the race problem *is* important in the making of Negro soldiers, and that their experience in civilian life cannot be separated arbitrarily from their training. Moreover, while it has made some moves to improve conditions, the War department itself has contributed to the low morale of Negro fighting men. It should never have permitted the establishment of a "Negro" officers' club at Ft. Huachuca. It should have abolished at the outset—instead of last August—segregation within army posts. It should have abandoned its morale-crushing system of promotions for Negro officers, for not only are the officers affected, but enlisted men as well. It should now, without delay, direct that the insulting and humiliating "white" officers' club of the 92d in Italy be closed, or Negro officers admitted on a par with others.

Above all, the War department ought to move as rapidly as possible to wipe out segregation of fighting men according to color. A step has been made in the armies on the western front where a few thousand Negro volunteers, formerly in supply and service units, have been re-trained as riflemen and assigned to fight along with white troops.

The pattern of slander and rumors and lies about Negro fighters which came out of the last war must not be repeated. The Negro soldier must not be betrayed by the War department or any of its spokesmen. He can fight as well as any man and is proving it every day. What he needs is a War department behind him whose policies, however strict, are not shaped along the color line.

New York State Bars Economic Jim Crow

By Julia E. Baxter

The signing of the Ives-Quinn bill by Governor Thomas E. Dewey March 12 made New York the first state to penalize discrimination in employment on grounds of race and religion. So far ten states have followed New York's lead and now have 'FEPC' bills on their legislative calendars

WHEN Governor Thomas E. Dewey fixed his signature to the much-discussed Ives-Quinn anti-discrimination bill March 12, 1945, New York's minorities won a signal victory in their fight for economic equality. The right to work unhampered by the shackles of race, creed, or color has now become a civil right. This bill not only outlaws economic discrimination on racial and religious grounds, but it serves as a model for similar fair employment measures in other states and furnishes Congress with a pattern for similar federal legislation.

New York's permanent commission against discrimination would never have been created without the careful planning and the cooperation of various citizen groups working for enactment of the Ives-Quinn bill. By act of the legislature in 1944 a temporary commission was assigned the duty of investigating the entire field of discriminatory economic practices and asked to report its recommendations for legislation to the governor and the legislature by February 1, 1945.

Eight members were chosen by the legislature, four Republicans and four Democrats; and the remaining fifteen, representing the public and interested groups, were appointed by the governor. This body set to work at once examining the nature and extent of discrimination in New York. It studied existing statutes; it evaluated educational programs; it held hearings on the legislation to be proposed; and, after supplementing its information with that made available by former commissions, presented its proposals on January 29, 1945. It was early agreed that the interests of the state would be best served if politics were kept out of the matter. The measure was therefore made bi-partisan with Irving M. Ives (Rep.), majority leader of the lower house and chairman of the temporary commission, anl Elmer F. Quinn (Dem.), senate minority leader, sponsors.

Opposition Forces

Chief opposition to the measure before its passage centered in organized business groups and certain sections of organized labor. Organized business offered quiet but powerful opposition and working behind the scenes they used every device at their command to emasculate it. They sent appeals to the press; they distributed questionnaires; and they circulated petitions. The New York State Chamber of Commerce, the New York Brotherhood of Locomotive Enginemen, the Brotherhood of Firemen and Enginemen, and the Commerce and Industry Association were also actively opposed. Discrimination, they asserted, was a matter for education, not legislation. And pointing to existing statutes as adequate, they denounced the proposed law as superfluous. They said the new agency would be a costly experiment and prophesied political "handouts" and corruption. They painted a gloomy picture of the economic future of the state with business and industry moving to other states where there was no "FEPC" legislation, and that instead of labor being attracted to the state even that in the state would move elsewhere. The New York Chamber of Commerce requested certain latitudes in interpretation for employers, and adopted a resolution which pictured business and industry as the victims of intimidation and blackmail. A letter which the Chamber circulated among

Associated Press Photo

Governor Thomas E. Dewey signs New York's anti-discrimination bill, first in the nation, as co-sponsors Assemblyman Irving M. Ives (Rep.), left, and Senator Elmer F. Quinn (Dem.) look on.

the legislators even predicted possible riots.

The Brotherhood of Firemen and Enginemen appealed to Republican county chairmen in an effort to secure party opposition to the measure.

When it became evident that the Senate Finance Committee was being swayed by these arguments, the Committee demanded additional hearings.

Additional Support Mobilized

Angered by the delaying tactics of business and certain sections of organized labor, assembly leaders took advantage of the occasion to mobilize additional support. The response was instantaneous because the publicity given the issue in the local and national press had already heightened public interest. Local chambers of commerce, real estate associations, and boards of trade gave support. Negro, Jewish, labor, church, and civic organizations brought the full strength of their following behind the measure.

Louis Hollander, president of the State CIO denounced the stand of the State Chamber of Commerce as un-American and called upon the 1,000,000 members of affiliated local unions to help secure passage of the bill. Thomas A. Murray, president of the State American Federation of Labor, gave it clear-cut endorsement. Roy Wilkins, acting secretary of the NAACP, rallied all New York state members to bring pressure upon their respective legislators. Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall and his assistant Edward R. Dudley were sent to Albany to lobby for the measure. The Liberal Party contributed the weight of its backing, and stepping into the fight, Governor Dewey declared that passage of the legislation would be a forward step in the promotion of harmony among the people of the state.

On February 20, 1945, one of the most influential delegations ever present at a public hearing in Albany voiced the demands of labor and minorities for approval of the controversial measure. Two hundred and thirty supporters requested to be heard. The opposition was outnumbered eight to one. First to speak for the bill was the representative of Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia. The Federal Council of Churches, the Greater New York Federation of Churches, and the New York State Catholic Welfare Committee were also fully represented. Charles H. Tuttle, counsel to the temporary commission and Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress acted as marshals for the major organizations favoring passage. These hearings proved a boomerang to the opposition for three reasons: First, the supporters outnumbered the opposition; secondly, their side of the question—a fundamental one based on a man's constitutional rights—better lent itself to forceful presentation; and thirdly, the legislators were not insensitive to the fact that supporters of the bill represented forces which could ruin their political careers.

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Dr. Stephen S. Wise, famed Jewish leader and rabbi of the Free Synagogue, New York City, was one of many prominent citizens who testified in favor of the bill.

The Ives-Quinn bill was passed in the lower house on February 28, after the defeat of three emasculating amendments, by a vote of 109 to 32. One week later the senate, rejecting a popular referendum motion, approved it 49 to 6. The measure becomes effective July 1, 1945.

Chief Provisions of the Bill

New York's anti-discrimination bill has been wisely conceived. It embraces provisions for immediate action as well as machinery designed to educate the public to the awareness that discrimination undermines the entire social structure. Although New York over a period of years has enacted more social and economic legislation than any other state, most of its fourteen anti-discrimination laws depend on local prosecutors for their effectiveness. And now the Ives-Quinn bill comes to supplement and complement these laws. It establishes for all persons the right to employment without discrimination by employers, labor organizations, employment agencies or other persons. It creates a state agency whose function it is to see that discrimination in employment is prohibited.

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Another prominent citizen who supported the measure was Charles Evans Hughes, Jr.

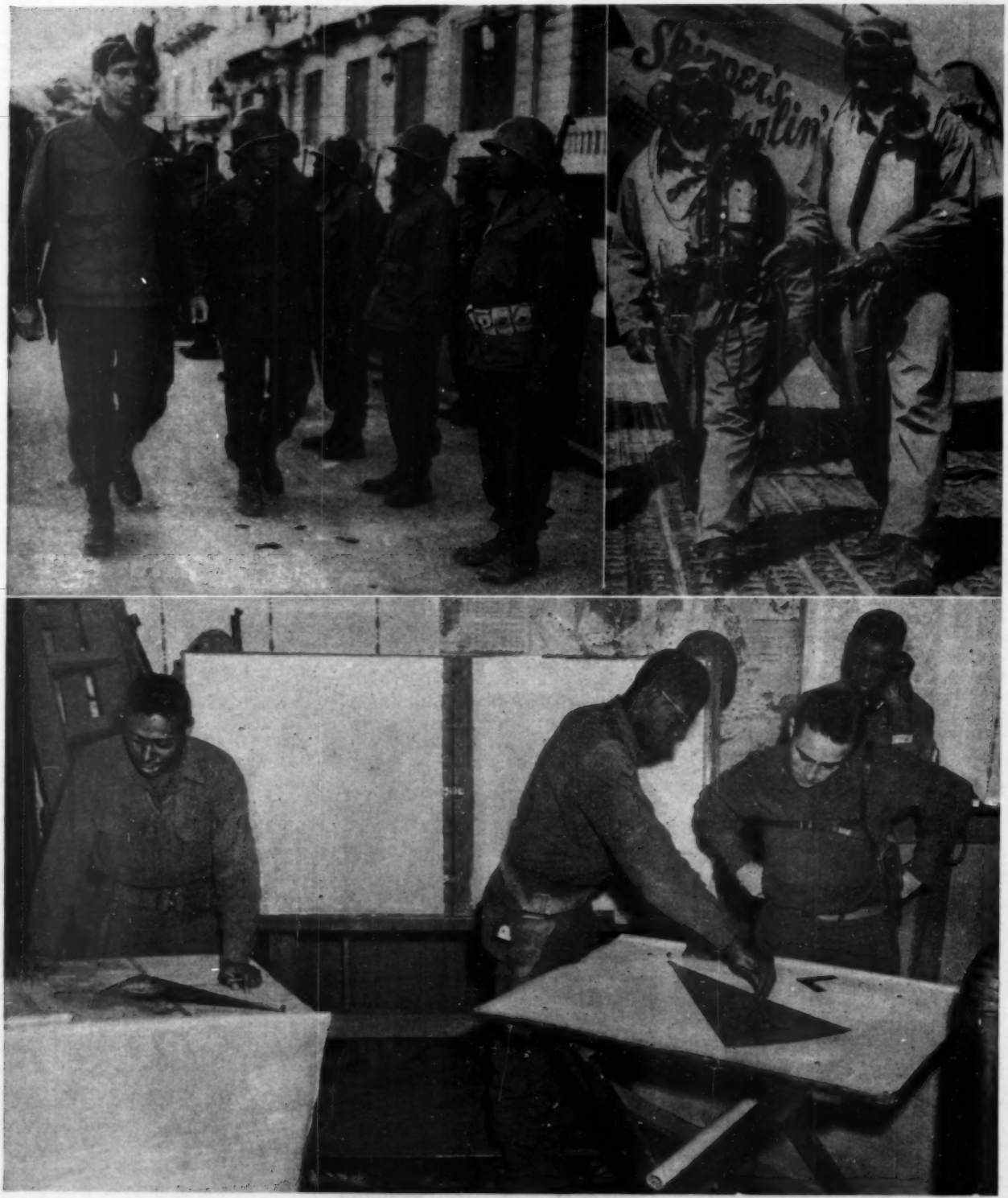
This commission consists of five members appointed by the governor by and with the advice and consent of the senate to serve for a term of five years, with the exception that the terms of the first commissioners shall be one, two, three, four, and five years in order that future appointees will have overlapping terms. Three members will constitute a quorum. They will receive $10,000 a year salary and are subject to removal by the governor for inefficiency or neglect. No special representation is reserved on the commission for any minority group.

The Commission is given power to initiate whatever policies it finds necessary to make the statute an actuality. In recognition of the newness of this legislation, its duties are expanded to provide development of a statewide adult education program to promote understanding and leadership in a wholesale attack against prejudice.

Major arguments against the law were anicipated before it was framed and ample provisions against harmful practices were written into the act. The measure provides no employment where none exists and employers themselves can appeal to the commission for relief from the pressure of employees who refuse to work with members of minority groups. But conciliation and persuasion are the prime requisites in the settling of complaints. Where this method proves ineffective, hearings will be held and testimony given under oath. Should the evidence support the complaint, cease and desist orders will be issued to the defendant to stop the practice complained of. The commission may seek enforcement of these orders in the State Supreme Court should this become necessary. Wilful disobedience of the Court's mandates will be judged a misdemeanor and punishable by a $500 fine. A jail sentence of one year may also be imposed.

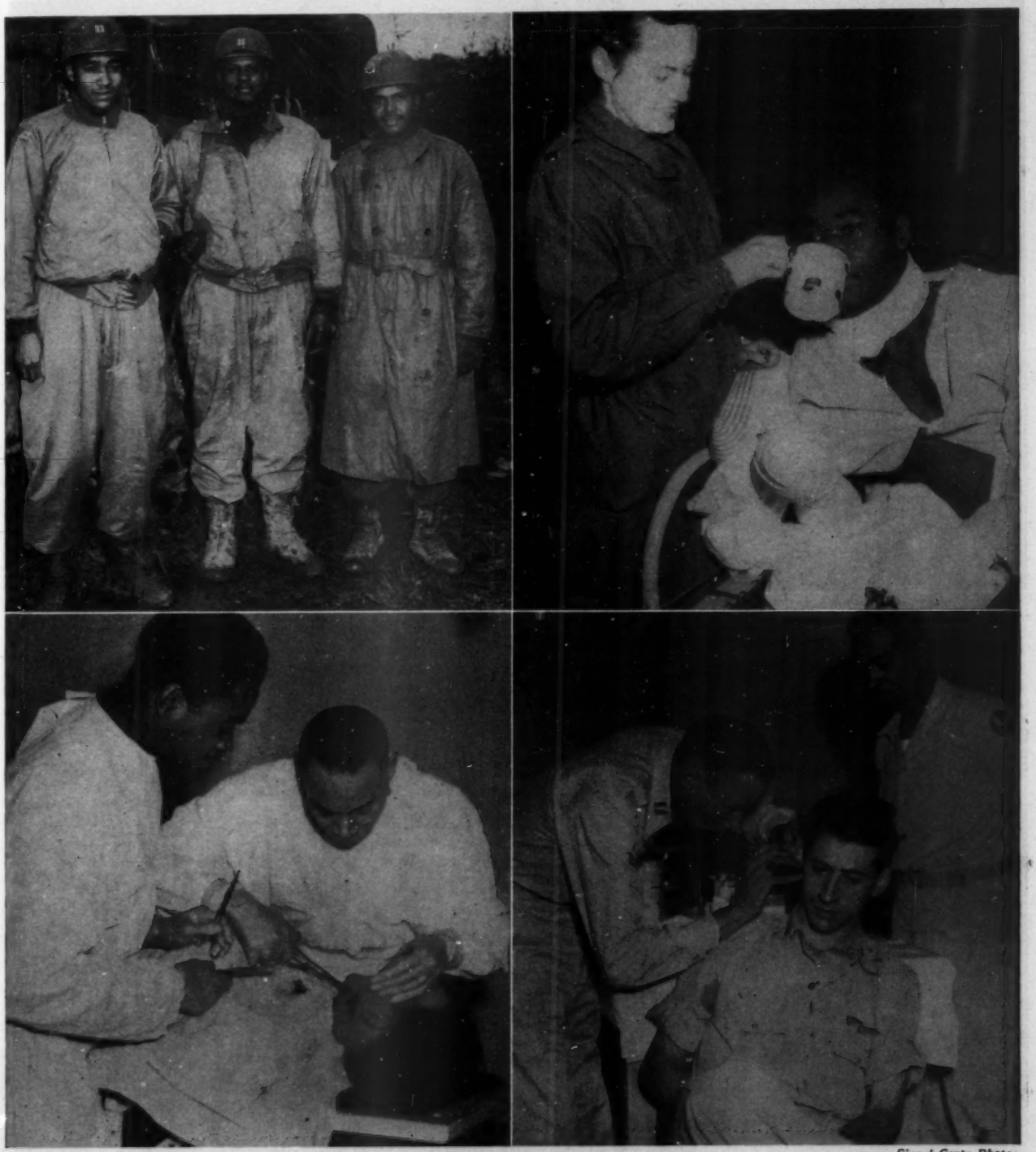
In drafting the statute the temporary commission recognized that the elimination of discrimination in employment is only a first step toward the abatement of prejudice. Men who work side by side come to have a better understanding of each other. Prejudice, it maintains, is the fruit of ignorance, and

(*Continued on page* 116)



Signal Corps Photos

FIFTH ARMY AND 15th AIR FORCE MEN IN ITALY—*Lt. General Mark W. Clark, commanding general of the Fifth Army, inspecting troops of the 92nd division during an award ceremony. Right, Capt. Andrew D. Turner, left in picture, Washington, D. C., commanding officer of a squadron of P-51 Mustang Fighter Group of the 15th Air Force based in Italy, discusses thrills of a recent mission with 1st Lt. Clarence P. ("Lucky") Lester, Chicago, Ill. Reading from left to right in the bottom picture are Sgt. William L. Griffis, Chatanooga, Tenn., 1/Sgt. Lloyd N. Wilkinson, Brooklyn, N. Y., Major James W. Melville, Broken Bow, Neb., and Cpl. Lawrence Hardy tabulating information in the fire control room of a field artillery battalion somewhere in Luxembourg.*



Signal Corps Photos

TRANSPORT AND SURGERY—*Field officers of a motor transport unit await action near Nancy, France. Left to right: Capt. Ivan H. Harrison, Detroit, Mich., Capt. Irvin McHenry, Leavenworth, Kansas, and 2nd Lt. James C. Lightfoot, Washington, D. C. Lt. Betty D. Telfer, Seattle, Wash., hands coffee to Pvt. Norman Powell, Petersburg, Va., a soldier patient in a general hospital in France. At lower left Capt. Morris S. Young, New York City, is shown removing a particle of flak lodged in the jaw of a bombardier. Pvt. First Class Wellington R. Mills, Roanoke, Va., is assisting. In the other picture Capt. Young is shown giving medical treatment to a flying officer of the 15th Air Force. Captain Young is the Group Surgeon of a Negro service group maintaining an advanced service center under the jurisdiction of the* **15th Air Force Service Command.**

British Combine

OUR WACS IN ENGLAND—*First colored WACs to arrive in any war theatre get off the train at night in England. This is a U. S. Army postal unit to be stationed somewhere on the continent, where it will handle the Army Postal Directory Service for the entire European theatre of operations. The Battalion is composed of 24 Negro WAC officers and 677 enlisted women. Commanding the Battalion is Major Charity Adams, Columbia, S. C. They were met on arrival in the ETO by Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, representing Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general of the communications zone. At left the WACs march past the saluting base, and at right they are shown on parade with their colors.*

The Song Says "Keep On Smiling"

By Chester B. Himes

Here's a touching story of Jean Delaney who mocked by race and life smiles to keep from crying

IT had been Jean Delaney who had given them the idea in the first place. She sang with the shipyard orchestra and worked on shipway No. 7 as a shipfitter helper. And she had a ripe red smile that even the San Francisco fog couldn't dampen.

The white girls used to ask her, "Jean, how on earth do you keep your smile? You're never low—how do you do it?"

One day Jean said, "Look, why don't you chicks organize a club and have some fun. You'll go nuts thinking about your guys and going to bed with memories. Make it just for the girls with boy friends in service."

And that's how it began.

But when they organized the club, they didn't include her, and she only learned about it by accident. She had noticed all that day that the women were avoiding her, but she didn't know the reason until that evening on the bus going home, a girl named Sheila said to her,

"Bring some music tonight, Jean; we want you to sing for us."

"Bring some music where?" Jean wanted to know. "What's cooking?"

"To Helen's, of course." And then Sheila looked startled. "You're coming, aren't you?"

"I might if I knew what it was all about," Jean smiled.

Sheila blushed, and then stammered, "Oh, er, I-er, thought you knew. The girls are having a meeting of the *Sweethearts Club*. They, er, asked you to join, didn't they?"

It was the first time Sheila had ever seen Jean lose her smile. "Yes they did, but I, er, I'm not eligible," Jean lied with quick defensiveness. "Er, you see my boy friend's not really in service; he's in the merchant marines."

But it hurt her deeply that they had not asked her to join. All the way up Sutter street, her hurt slowly intensified, and when she alighted at the corner of Filmore, she felt as close to tears as she had been since leaving New Orleans six months before.

It was a noisy, uncouth corner, always crowded with street loungers who insulted and molested unescorted women. Hurrying into the corner cafeteria, she ate beside a harsh indifferent woman who read the evening paper; and then, running the gauntlet of meddling drunks, went across the street and started up the two flights of stairs to her hall bedroom.

The first floor of the three-storied apartment building was occupied by a black-and-tan jump joint called *Del's Cafe*. Mrs. Dels, who owned both the cafe and the building, lived on the second floor; while the third was given over to rooms for defense workers.

On sudden impulse, Jean stopped and knocked at Mrs. Dels' door. A short, stout, brown-skinned woman with bobbed, wavy hair streaked with gray, opened the door and smiled delightedly at sight of her.

"Why, here's my pretty little daughter," she greeted warmly. "Come in. Where have you been? You must come and see me more often."

Cheered somewhat by the warmth of the greeting, Jean tried to smile again. "I really should, Mrs. Dels," she confessed, taking a seat on the divan. "You're always so wonderfully happy; how do you do it?" And then suddenly, she had to laugh—that was exactly what the white girls had always said to her.

But Mrs. Dels was pleased by the remark. "God has been good to me," she replied.

"I suppose He'll get around to the rest of us sooner or later," Jean sighed.

"You young folks and your troubles," Mrs. Dels chided. "Don't know what trouble is. Tell me about yourself, daughter. What have you been doing with yourself?"

"Oh, I've been staying in, reading and sleeping," Jean said; and then all of a sudden she found herself pouring out all of the annoyances that had accumulated on her job. But it was at her mention of the *Sweetheart's Club* that Mrs. Dels sensed the difference in her voice.

"So they took your idea and then didn't ask you to join," she surmised.

"I didn't really want to join anyway," Jean denied, trying hard to sound indifferent about the whole business. "But I thought sure they would ask me. Why it's just a hen affair, nobody but just the women; and I've been chummy with them right along."

"Now don't you worry, child," Mrs. Dels comforted. "Those whitefolks will be coming to you yet, begging you to sing for them. Their conscience will get to hurting them and they'll do something extry nice to make up for it. White folks is like that—try to buy their way right straight into heaven.

"You take me, for instance. I worked for a family thirty years and they worked me like a dog; and then I told them I was just tired and I was going to quit and get some rest and enjoyment out of life before I died. And you know, their conscience got to bothering them and they gave me the money to buy this place. All the days I was slaving for them I never thought that some day I'd own a business and a big apartment house. I own a brand new Cadillac automobile, too. I had the money and I just bought it 'cause I always wanted to own a car. Soon as I learn how to drive you got to let me take you for a ride downtown somewhere."

Jean tried to smile again, but the long speech left her depressed. If she had to wait thirty years before she felt she had a place in the world, she would just as soon die now. Soon afterwards she said she was tired; and promising to call again soon, she climbed the stairs to her own room.

Upon entering, she snapped on the light. Although it was only a little after six, inside was pitch dark. Only between the hours of two and three in the afternoon did the one window, opening onto a narrow court, supply enough light by which to read.

Pushed against the inner wall was a faded, moth-eaten davenport of indescribable color; to the right stood a cheap, ivory painted dressing table scarred with numerour cigarette burns. The remainder of the available space was occupied by the bed.

Gathering together her toilet articles—towel, soap, tooth brush and paste, along with cleanser and disinfectant—she peeped out into the hallway to see if it was clear, then tiptoed down the back stairway to the bathroom. She walked daintily, holding the hem of her robe away from the dirty floor.

By the time she had returned, the noise from the cabaret part of the cafe had already begun. Situated directly below her room, every sound came up through the narrow court and issued through her open window as if from an amplifier. But if she closed her window, the dank odor of the room suffocated her.

However, instead of going to bed, she began arranging her hair and making up her face. She was so blue and lonesome she could have screamed just to hear a familiar voice. Satisfied with her makeup, she donned her high-heeled slippers and a print evening gown, and suddenly, a little startlingly, be-

gan to sing to the furniture, frowning at the dresser, smiling at the davenport, gesturing to the bed.

"I'll get by—as long as I have you . . ." she crooned, throwing wide her arms to the closed door.

But after a time she could no longer stand it; she had sung herself into a state of desperation. She had to talk to some one or she would go nuts.

Throwing a coat over her shoulders, she ran downstairs to the cafe. For a moment she stood in the jam which hemmed in the bar, undecided. A hand squeezed her arm and a whiskey-thickened voice whispered, "Wanna drink, babe?"

Before she could reply, the orchestra leader, Bert Saunders, who was just arriving, came up behind them and said, "Easy chum, she's my guest."

Turning quickly, she recognized him. "Oh! It's you."

The cabaret entertainers used the same bath as the upstairs roomers, and once before she had met him in the hallway. He had invited her to come down and have a drink on him; and now he said, presuming she had accepted, "Well, this is a treat. Come on in."

For just an instant she hesitated. Then, smiling, she said, "It's a good deal," and followed him into the cabaret to a table near the orchestra stand.

Although it was only seven-thirty, the place was already filled. All available floor space not occupied by the orchestra was taken up by tables placed so closely together there was scarcely room for the waiters to pass with the drinks. Brown and yellow faces took on strange hues in the orange light, and cigarette smoke formed a bluish haze overhead. Pungent perfumes and whiskey smell clogged in her nostrils; and the incessant din of loud, unrestrained voices filled her ears. But there was something exciting about the place, something primitive, abandoned, wanton, that took her mind from her own troubles.

Sitting opposite her, Bert ignored the clamor of, "Let's have some jive, papa," and tried to get acquainted. He was a short, dark man with slicked hair and a worldly smile, clad in an expensive gray suit, light blue shirt, and a dubonet bow tie. He ordered Scotch and soda for them both, and smiled at her.

"Did you really come down to meet me, sugar, or did I just pop in on the dime?"

"I just got tired of my dingy attic room for which I pay nine good dollars weekly," she said.

His eyes lidded slightly. "A good looking queen like you shouldn't have a hard time finding a place to stay—please believe me."

"That's what you think. I've searched this whole bay area from end to end and there's absolutely nothing to be found."

He leaned a little toward her, his gaze on her face, and suggested, "Well, I have a big apartment—and my wife is in New York. I could rent you a room; why should I be so selfish."

She gave him a level look. "I'm not the girl. I have a sweetheart in the merchant marines; he's at sea now, but when he gets back, I'm going to marry him—"

"And settle down," he supplemented, spreading his hands. "My idea isn't *forever*, sugar," he persisted. "When he comes back, you move out." He lifted his glass, put it down. His eyes narrowed, "Nothing lost. I know where there's a silver fox jacket that's strictly a good deal."

After a moment she asked, "You don't believe in a girl being true to her sweetheart, do you?"

"When I was white," he said in a dead tone voice, "I used to believe in everything." Signaling the waiter to refill their glasses, he added, "But you and I are black, sugar. Now I'm just an opportunist. What I believe in are the days; just the pure and simple days. And this is my day, sugar; I'm making plenty right here in this beatup joint jiving these icks." He wet his lips and took a breath. "I could be a chump for you, sugar—please believe me."

A big-boned flashily dressed woman leaned over his shoulder and said, "So you're chippy chasing again—and I caught you!"

Unperturbed, he replied, "So that's your story?"

But Jean quickly arose. "I must be going," she said. "Thank you for the drink."

The waiter served the second round of drinks, but she was halfway to the door. The big-boned woman took the seat which she had just vacated and winked at the people at the next table.

Bert arose to follow Jean. But at the doorway she turned and said breathlessly, "Please, I don't want to cause a scene."

He said, "'Til the next hand then," and let her go.

Outside, she whistled, "Whew!" And then suddenly laughed.

For an instant she contemplated visiting Hattie, a cook on Nob Hill whom she knew; but decided against it. No need of peeping in the white folks' kitchens when you didn't have to. So she walked down Filmore to Geary and caught the "B" car downtown to Market. She went into the *Western Union* office and asked, "It isn't possible to send a radiogram to a fellow in the merchant marine, is it?"

The girl smiled sympathetically. "Not if he is at sea."

She walked back to Sutter and caught a "2" car home. It was eleven-thirty when she re-entered her room; and the noise from below was tremendous. The male singer was going to town on: *"Yass-yass-yass . . ."* And the patrons were echoing: *"Oh-yass-yass-yass . . ."* The joint was rocking.

She waited for twelve o'clock when it would become quiet and she could go to sleep.

YOU WILL SAY

And you will say:
My nurse was black, the one I had,
Yes, mesdemoiselles,
When I was born in U. S. A.
In Europe, then,
A tiger raged,
The woeful tracks of jackals followed him.

You will say to them:
My nurse was black, the one I had,
No half-breed she,
Perhaps a shade of yellow
With a profile quite projection
And straightened hair, shining,
Tiara shaped, with glistening oil,
So when she walked in the sunlight
Amidst her braids
All colors flashed of rainbow hues.
Somersaults we turned on the lawn.
Yes! Like me she bent into a ball,
And put her head down in the grass
So, then flipflop!

And when I climbed upon her front,
What chuckling laughs,
Like firecrackers, like water falling
And how I felt each spasm on my skin!

She used to talk to the dishes in the sink,
to the grater, to the pots, to the bottles.
In her pink palms how they bustled about,
Then stood in rows in the cupboard shelves
Like magic of the enchanter's wand.

My glass and my bowl
To my pouting lips are raised
And sleep comes down
Upon mine eyes resistless now,
Comes down with wooing and with smiling
Like the lips of all the angels in Paradise.

And why should she not have an angel's smile
On her dark face, my ebon nurse?
There is in truth an ebon Virgin in Chartres church
And upon many a Byzantine mozaic.
And Balthazar, who followed the Star to the manger bed,
Was he not black of face and swart
As the rock of Mount Moriah in Jerusalem?

And why should not the face of God be dark,
With long black locks
And ebon beard, with eyes afire
Like King Cophetua's, of Burnes-Jones' art in London,
Sitting at the feet of the little white servant maid
With periwinkle eyes, whom he adores?

Tu diras by ANDRE SPIRE
(Translated by John F. Matheus)

★ BUY WAR BONDS ★
Best Wartime Investment

World Conference Hears Voice of Black Labor

By George Padmore

When the World Trade Union Congress ended its meetings in London's city hall February 24, it was the first time in history that Negro delegates had attended an international labor gathering as representatives of colonial peoples. Seven Negro delegates from Africa and the West Indies participated, and this article tells what they did

THE wide and representative character of the colonial delegation to the recent World Trade Union Conference was significant and encouraging. It was significant for the fact that for the first time in the history of international labor colored colonial workers—the most oppressed and exploited section of the world proletariat—were given the opportunity of voicing their grievances and of expressing through their trusted leaders their hopes and aspirations. It was encouraging because at the time when the question of a new international is being discussed, the white working-class trade union movements of Europe and America, which have hitherto ignored the existence of the colored workers, are apparently beginning to recognize that "Labor in the white skin cannot emancipate itself while Labor in the black skin is enslaved," and have manifested this awareness by drawing these long-neglected and forgotten millions of colonial workers into the world fraternity of labor.

In this sense the World Trade Union Conference achieved a degree of solidarity which should go a long way towards laying the foundations of the new international federation whose formation it endorsed.

The colonial delegates came from Nigeria, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Gambia in West Africa; Jamaica in the West Indies; British Guiana in South America; Palestine, Cyprus, etc. It is noteworthy that the Northern Rhodesian Mine Workers Union was represented by a white man, for the color-bar in that colony excludes African miners from entering the trade union.

Colonial Unions Young

While most of the colonial unions represented by these colored delegates are young, they have nevertheless been able to build up substantial memberships since 1938, when trade unionism was recognized in principle for the first time by the British colonial administrations.

The Nigerian Trade Union Congress, which came into being only three years ago, now boasts a membership of 500,000 and 56 affiliated unions, covering transport, mining, dock-labour, seamen, public works, government employees, etc. In the other hand, the British Guiana Trade Union Council, with a membership of 10,000, is one of the oldest working-class organizations in the Colonial Empire. It recently celebrated its 25th anniversary and was represented at the Conference by its president, Mr. Hubert Crichlow, who founded and led the movement through its quarter of a century existence. Mr. Crichlow is the representative of the Negro, Indian, and other colored workers of British Guiana on the Governor's Executive Council.

Three Lions

Mr. T. Bankole of Nigeria was spokesman for the economic rights of these Nigerian workers. These men are operating sewing machines used in the making of clothes.

Although most of these colored delegates have served long terms of imprisonment for their working-class and trade-union activities, their speeches to the Conference did not reflect any of the personal bitterness and rancor that one might have expected from individuals who have been the victims of ruthless persecution. For example, T. A. Bankole, the president of the Nigerian Trade Union Congress, addressing the closing session of the Conference on the subject of the new international federation, stressed the need for an all-embracing organization, "At this juncture in world affairs, when labor has adorned its history with glorious achievement in the struggle to overthrow Fascism and to establish a lasting peace, the workers of the world cannot but come together in order to be in a position to contribute collectively to the establishment and maintenance of that peace," Mr. Bankole declared, and went on to say that he thought this was "why the formation of an international trade union organization is a prime necessity." Such an organization, he emphasized, "must be founded on the principle of equal treatment for all affiliated bodies and their representatives, regardless of the countries from which they derive, and must be nurtured in an atmosphere of mutual regard, discipline and candor. It must keep an open door for all approved labor organizations functioning in all lands"—allied, neutral and ex-enemy countries.

Class Solidarity Highlighted

There was nothing of narrow nationalism, racial or chauvinistic, in the speeches of these black men. Every one of them reflected a high level of class solidarity and socialist conviction.

The specific claims of the colonial working classes were voiced by Wallace Johnson, president of the Sierra Leone Trade Congress, who a few weeks before his ar-

rival in London had been released by the British Government after five and a half years' imprisonment and exile to Sherbre Island off the coast of West Africa.

Mr. Johnson called upon the Conference not merely to confine its condemnation to Fascism, which is not the only enemy of the working-classes. "Imperialism," asserted Johnson, "is for the colonial workers as great a menace as Fascism is to the workers of the metropolitan countries of Europe."

He, therefore, appealed to the Conference to endorse and support the following immediate demands, unanimously approved and adopted by all the colonial delegates as a Charter of Labor for the Colonies:

1. The abolition of the Color-Bar and all racial discrimination in public and private employment.
2. The abolition of forced labor, child labor, and all forms of slavery, open or disguised, abolition of flogging and other forms of punishment for breach of labor contract as well as penal sanctions for breach of labor contract.
3. Abolition of all pass-laws legislation and the establishment of the right of free assembly, free speech, free press, free movement.
4. Equal pay for equal work, irrespective of race, color, creed or sex.
5. Abolition of racial restrictions against the admittance of African and other colored workers into existing white trade unions (South Africa, Rhodesia, etc.). And wherever such restrictions continue to operate Africans and other colored workers should have the right to create separate and free trade unions.
6. Trade Union and Social legislation existing in the Colonies should be brought into line with those existing in the metropolis, or conversely, the same trade union and social legislative principles operating in the metropolitan countries should be made applicable to the colonial territories.

Concluding his speech, Wallace Johnson reminded the Conference that "Justice, like Peace, is indivisible, and the world today cannot remain half free and half slave."

Hill Speech Refreshing

In an eloquent speech, Ken Hill, representing the Jamaica Trade Union Council, the most progressive section of the organized workers' movement of that Caribbean colony, called for the extension of the principle of self-determination enunciated under Article 3 of the Atlantic Charter to the colonial peoples. There is no doubt that he brought to the deliberations of the Conference a comprehensive vision and international outlook as refreshing as it is rare at such gatherings. Hill suggested that "it would be unthinkable if this Conference through its committees did not put forward declarations expressing progressive views on the colonial question. To do less," he asserted, "would be to leave the world to be betrayed into another war within the present generation."

While recognizing that the indomitable purpose of the free and democratic trade union movements of the world is to crush Fascism wherever it raises its ugly head, Ken Hill declared: "But we must go further. We must take care that in our preoccupation with this historic task, we do not fail to take steps and use the influence of the international working class movement to discontinue the system of Imperialism and Capitalist domination, whatever shape or form they take."

Mr. Hill based his appeal on the contention that one of the main causes of modern wars is the rivalry among the Great Powers for colonies as markets, sources of raw materials, spheres of economic influence, and strategic bases for aerial, naval and military operations. Consequently, there can be no lasting peace until this conflict over colonies is liquidated, and with it the whole system of Fascism, Nazism and Imperialism —all of which derive from capitalism.

He maintained further that the world working class should act so that those countries which are represented at such Conferences should "be judged not merely by the size of our contributions to arms and supplies of war, but by the moral values which our unity and association can engender for lasting peace and prosperity in the best interests of the working men and women of the world."

Inspired by what may promise to be the rebirth of the united labor movement, these black men from the far-flung parts of the British Empire will shortly be leaving London for their respective countries to continue the struggle not only for national liberation from the fetters of Imperialism, but also for the economic and social emancipation of the down-trodden workers and peasants for whom they speak.

British Combine

A picture taken at the reception given by the LCC to delegates to the World Trades Union Conference. Herbert Morrison is shown shaking hands with I. M. Garba-Jahunpa of British Gambia, West Africa, at the reception. Dr. Somerville Hastings, chairman of the LCC, welcomed the 230 delegates from trade union centers in 42 countries at a reception held at the County Hall, Westminster Bridge, London.

CONVERSATION ON V

"They got pictures of V stamped on letter stamps;
Miss Eagle wear one in her lapel to her red cross suit;
Mr. Bigful, the bank president, got one in his lapel too;
Some of the people I do laundry with got great big ones in they windows;
Hadley Brothers Department Store uptown got pictures of V on they storebought dresses,
Even got a V ice cream dish—girls selling them so fast had to run up a sign: NO MORE V SUNDAES;
And bless God, Lucy done gone up North and come back with one gleaming on her pocketbook.
Now let's get this straight: what do them V's mean?"
"V stands for Victory."
"Now just what is this here Victory?"
"It what we get when we fight for it."
"Ought to be Freedom, God do know that!"

OWEN DODSON.

CIVIL SERVICE

My desk sits facing yours across the floor,
Yet your fair head is stiffly held aloof
From my own darker one, though 'neath our roof
With one accord we do a job. For war
Has linked us as no pleading could before.
Yet, seemingly, you wait for further proof
That we are spun the same . . . the warp and woof
Of new, strong fabric, draped at Freedom's door . . .
For you are still reluctant to obey
The impulse that would bring you to my side;
You send your memos on a metal tray,
And coldly kill each overture I've tried.
Why hope to rid charred continents of gloom
'Till *we* have learned to smile across a room?

—CONSTANCE C. NICHOLS

Democracy Afloat

By Ben Burns

THE Army and Navy said it couldn't be done.

But the U. S. Merchant Marine did it.

Stout-hearted sailors of the deep have won one of the critical struggles of World War II—the Battle Of The Color Line.

Today out in the thick of dangerous war waters and right smack on invasion beaches, white and Negro men of the sea are proving in one of the most significant experiments in U. S. race relations that the gold-braided admirals and generals were wrong.

They are demonstrating beyond a doubt that enforced segregation can be wiped out in American life without friction or violence. These unsung heroes of the seven seas who have braved the fury of Nazi U-boats and Japanese Zeros without flinching are showing conclusively that the Allied war for democracy can be made a genuine reality for thirteen million black Americans here at home too.

Sailing as an ordinary seaman on a Liberty ship, I have seen the so-called "impossible" in race relations, as the Army and Navy term it, and it works.

The as-yet untold story of how jim crow was unceremoniously dumped overboard on virtually every one of the 4,000 merchant vessels in our fleet of Liberty and Victory ships is a powerful rebuttal to the stubborn insistence of the War and Navy Departments on segregation in the armed forces. It is a saga of racial democracy that needs telling and retelling to millions of Americans, who accept and practice racial supremacy theories at home while fighting them abroad.

Here for the first time in history white and black men are sleeping, eating, working and living together by the thousands. They are all volunteer fighters in the war—men who have suffered the highest casualty rate of any service.

Ships Tiny Communities

Together on ships that are virtually tiny communities in themselves, they have worked out a pattern of racial relations that very well can become a model for the land.

At least four Liberty ships now have Negro captains—Hugh Mulzac, Adrian T. Richardson, Clifton Lastic and John Godfrey. In their crews are men of all colors and creeds who look to the colored top officer in the pilot house to steer them through calm and storm to the safety of their home port.

Contrary to the belief of the Army and Navy Departments Negroes and whites can work and live together on a basis of simple democratic equality. In the U. S. Merchant Marine the shibboleth of "white supremacy" has been shelved for complete racial integration

Among the more than 200,000 merchant seamen of America who bring the sinews of war to our soldiers and sailors in many far-off lands, there are 8,000 Negroes, many of them ship's officers.

Symbolic of this new, somewhat revolutionary concept of interracial good will on the sea is the naming of fifteen Liberty ships after outstanding Negro leaders, the first being the *S.S. Booker T. Washington.*

In a huge convoy carrying GI supplies to the Mediteranean, I witnessed evidence at every turn that jim crow is taboo. From the moment I boarded a Liberty ship at an eastern seaport, I became convinced that the Merchant Marine racial pattern works.

I spoke to Negro seamen who have been shipping out since Pearl Harbor and without exception they agree that they have not encountered a single instance of racial discrimination at sea.

Of a crew of 43 on the vessel, the *S.S. Anton J. Cermak,* named after the Chicago mayor who was shot in an assassination attempt on President Roosevelt, eleven were Negro.

Typical was 22-year-old able-bodied seaman Warren Marshall of New York's Harlem, who told me: "In more than a year I've been shipping; I haven't seen a single case of racial discrimination on board."

Ever-smiling, easy-going Marshall is a former Howard University pre-medical student who became an aircraft mechanic at Rome, N. Y., army air field when the war began. He was buffeted enough by army routine to turn to the sea.

"Sure, I like this life," Marshall said, "but I'm saving enough to go back to school when the war's over. Maybe I'll be a 'doc' yet. One thing's for sure—I won't have to take the discrimination in the army."

Negroes work in every department on ship—topside, in the mess, and down below. Half of them bunk with white shipmates. All the crew eat together in a common mess hall. For all practical purposes they might be white, black or yellow—their color has no status.

Not that many of the white seamen do not have their own private prejudiced opinions about "white supremacy." Some believe that colored crew members should be segregated. Others talk about separate ships manned by Negroes only. There is the usual stereotype concept of the Negro.

Whites Accept Setup

But the important thing is that for all their objections and protests, they go along with the setup whether they come from South Carolina or Southern California—they work, eat and sleep with Negroes. And most significant, they learn. They learn and admit that Negroes can be decent, fine, clean folks or they can be ornery, deceitful, dirty folks, just like some whites.

Thousands going to sea for the first time have discovered the fraud in the myths about race and changed their minds about the fables of superiority. They have found that a ship during wartime where every man's life may depend on the next fellow's skill and courage is no place for race hate.

The hands that man the ship's potent weapons, its effective 20 mm. anti-aircraft guns and powerful five-inch and three-inch pieces, are black and white. Negro merchant men take their posts in the gun tubs alongside white Navy men and color is forgotten in the face of the foe.

While the Navy Department still maintains stringent color lines on every vessel in the fleet (until two years ago limiting Negroes to messmen jobs only) jim crow breaks down on Liberty ships. Every hand, no matter what color, is needed to battle the enemy and every single Negro in the crew has a battle station where he can fight back when the Hitlerites strike. There are no "For White Only" signs on the guns. In fact for any Negro to refuse to help man a gun would be considered a cardinal offense.

It is a strange contradiction. In the convoy itself both races work on the big guns together. But on its outer fringes in the destroyer escort that flits and darts about like a sheepdog attending its flock, the Navy stubbornly maintains that cracking of color lines would be impractical.

Racial democracy works on Liberty ships but not on Navy vessels: it is evidently the contention of the admirals who dictate Navy

policy. But they would have a hard time proving it to the seamen who can testify to the most cordial relations between Navy sailors and Negro merchant seamen.

Credit for the Job

Credit for the pioneering job in racial relations done in the Merchant Marine goes to the common sense of the War Shipping Administration, the ship owners, and the CIO National Maritime Union.

Back in its early days of birth in 1936 and 1937 when bloody battles were waged on the waterfronts of half a dozen seaports in the East, the union learned in a hard-fought strike that the color line is a risky business that could break the union. It started out by putting thumbs down on racial prejudice and electing a Negro from the West Indies, Ferdinand Smith, as its secretary.

The union has been fighting on the race front ever since. In all its hiring halls, even in the Deep South, all prejudiced traditions have been smashed and colored and white unionists await jobs in the same places without any discrimination. In many cases Negroes are dispatchers who send men out of the hall to fill jobs.

When Pearl Harbor came, the CIO union insisted that the newly-formed War Shipping Administration follow its non-discriminatory policy and it is a tribute to the good sense of its head, Admiral Emory Land, that he agreed with the labor men.

The WSA maritime training schools are run just as the ships—the color line is taboo. Trainees come from all sections of the nation and find out on their first day in school that they have to drop their prejudices or drop out of school. Usually the hates lose out.

At Sheepshead Bay in New York City or in the Deep South at St. Petersburg, Fla., the policy is the same. Schools at both these centers are concerned only with turning out the best seamen in the world in the shortest time to meet the needs of our expanding merchant fleet. Its directors have learned that race prejudice gets in the way and they have wiped out every trace of discrimination —trainees eat, sleep and learn together just as if they were at sea.

Shipowners Have Learned

Ship owners learned after Pearl Harbor that courage knows no color and they too have followed in the union's footsteps by proclaiming racial democracy aboard all their vessels. It was not always easy and in numerous cases Dixie-minded seamen walked off ships rather than sign on with Negro sailors. But even these stubborn, recalcitrant fellows changed their ways.

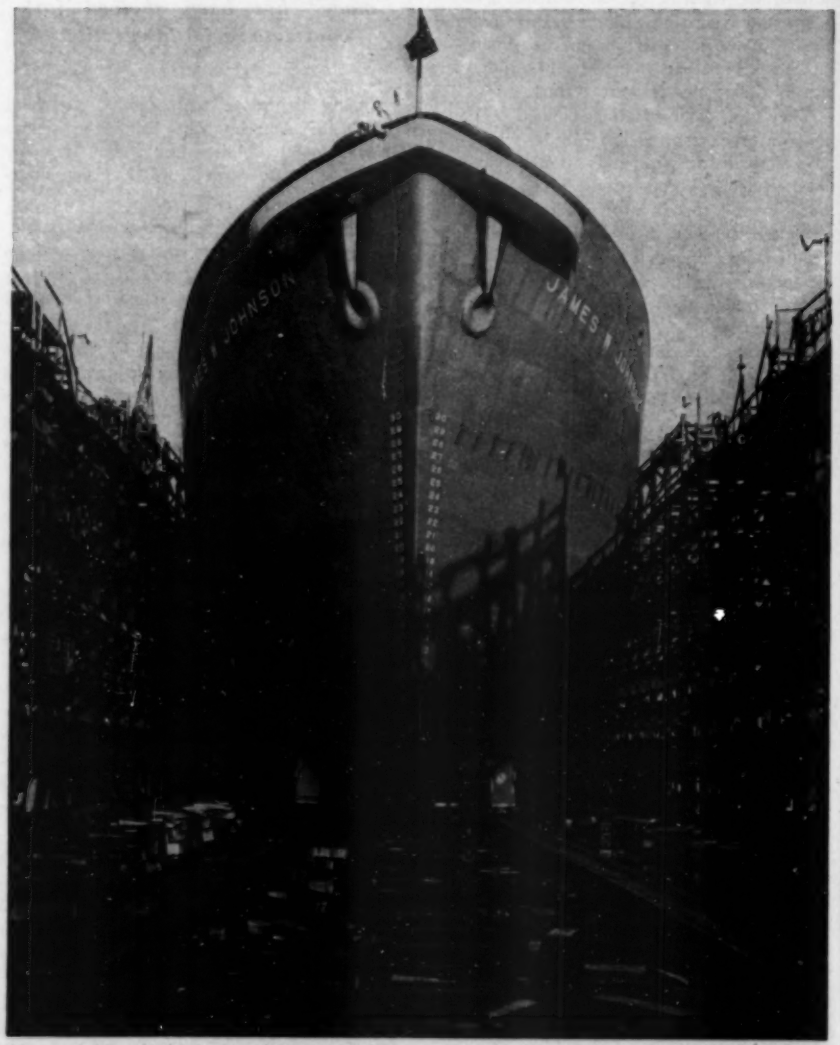
Helping was the example of sterling heroism by typical Negro seamen—sailors like Harold D. Harper who had six ships go down under him and who in one sinking suffered a thigh wound when he was machine-gunned by a Nazi plane. One of the Negro captains, Skipper Richardson, had his ship, the *S.S. Frederick Douglass,* torpedoed in a bitter arctic storm but all hands were saved.

These men are building a tradition that is found to be more than a "duration" affair. Their wartime pioneering in race relations has already been assured permanency in the peace through a historic contract signed by the CIO union and 124 ship companies. This agreement prohibits discrimination against any seaman "because of race, creed, color or national origin."

By virtue of this contract, both sides have agreed that the "impossible" in race relations can and does work.

Good Will at Work

Council House, a community center operated by the New York Section of the Council of Jewish Women, is thought of by thousands of Negro boys and girls as a kind of "second home." The center was started in 1929 to serve the underprivileged Jewish people of the east Bronx, but within the past few years the surrounding population has changed to mostly Negroes. Instead of transferring its activities to another area, the National Council continued to operate the house. The sponsorship was broadened to include Negro, white, Catholic, and Jewish members on the board of directors and the name changed to Forest House.



Calif. Eagle Photo

"Racial democracy works on Liberty ships." The first Negro ship captains in the American merchant marine got their births on Liberty ships—Hugh Mulzac, Adrian Richardson, John Godfrey. Ten or more of these Liberty ships have been named after Negroes. This picture shows the SS James Weldon Johnson *at its launching December,* 1943, *in the yards of the California Shipbuilding Corporation in Wilmington, California.*

Along the N. A. A. C. P. Battlefront

GI Contributions to NAACP: Members of the armed forces continue to be among the largest non-branch group contributors to the work of the Association. One of the largest contributions was made last August by the men of the 362nd Engineer Regiment (GS) through the medium of their regimental chaplain, Captain Russell A. Perry. This outfit contributed $3,805.50 as testimony of their faith in our work.

From somewhere overseas, officers and men of the 1310th Engineers Regiment (GS) forwarded $1,136 for memberships. Credit for the success of this membership campaign within the ranks was due largely to the efforts of some thirty men.

"As an expression of our faith in the NAACP and the great work that it is being done through capable leadership," soldiers of the 1887th Engr. Avn. Bn. sent in $2,063.82 for memberships. Captain James E. Coby, chaplain, in describing the recent activities of his men wrote: "The men of my organization have just finished a six-weeks panel jury on postwar planning. We thought that in order for many of our plans to be realized in a postwar America, we should give our support to the organization that is doing most to secure our full citizenship."

Another recent contributor is Pvt. Albert P. Miles, Btry. D, 77th Gun Bn. (SM) who took out a $500 life membership. In his covering letter he expressed the hope that the "success of the organization will continue."

Ives-Quinn Bill: On March 5 the New York state senate by a vote of 49 to 6 passed the Ives-Quinn anti-discrimination bill. The bill had already been passed by the lower house February 28. And on March 12 Governor Thomas E. Dewey signed the bill, thereby making New York the first state to penalize discrimination in employment on grounds of race and religion.

Successful passage of the measure is striking evidence of what can be accomplished when the forces of fair play are properly organized to combat discrimination in employment. Delegations and spokesmen for labor, the church, and civic and racial groups spoke and fought in favor of the bill. In fact, the February 20 hearing in Albany brought out the largest number of witnesses ever to appear at such a hearing. Jews, Catholics, and Protestants were outspoken in their support. Governor Thomas E. Dewey gave the measure his full support and it had a Republican sponsor in the lower house and a Democratic sponsor in the senate. Opposition to the bill was centered mainly in trade associations and chambers of commerce.

The Association helped to bring pressure upon Albany by sending out 10,000 letters to a selected list of members in all the twenty-seven branches of the state. In addition, wires and letters were sent to legislators, and representatives appeared at the hearing.

If the New York action means anything, it means that Congress had better give serious consideration to a federal FEPC. All the old excuses were exploded at Albany. Real friends stood out, and enemies were smoked out. The same will happen in Congress, and if the same organization and alertness are exhibited by supporters the federal bill has a good chance of being passed.

The Association sent congratulatory letters to Governor Dewey, Ives and Quinn, coauthors of the bill, and to Negro legislators, William T. Andrews, Hulan Jack, and William Prince.

Stewart Photo

SEAMEN CONTRIBUTE—*George Gay of Akron, Ohio, boatswain's mate first class of the U. S. Navy, now on leave after twenty-four months overseas in the Pacific, is shown giving the $700 contributed to the NAACP by members of Base Company No. 1 to Leon Gordie, president of the Akron branch. There was one white contributor, Lt./JC H. W. Bloxham, who gave $10 and requested a membership. Gay took part in the campaigns of Guadalcanal, Tulagi, Saipan, and Guam and wears the campaign ribbons of those areas. He also wears the Presidential Ribbon of Commendation.*

Walter White in the Pacific: Executive secretary, Walter White, is still observing the treatment of Negro soldiers in the Pacific and conferring with high Army and Navy officials on their role in World War II. He has already visited Hawaii, where he looked into the charges against 73 soldiers convicted of mutiny; Johnston, Kwagalein, Guam, Saipan, the Philippines, and Dutch Guinea.

Branches Contribute to Willkie Building Fund: Contributions toward the $250,000 Wendell Willkie Building Fund are being received in the national office from branches and individual members interested in perpetuating the ideals and causes for which this

great American stood. The site chosen is the former New York club, a nine-story structure at 20 West 40th Street. The board of directors of Freedom House, which has charge of the building, has invited the NAACP to occupy two floors.

BRIEF FILED IN "MUTINY" CHARGE AGAINST SEAMEN: In an exhaustive brief filed with the Navy Board on behalf of the fifty Negro seamen convicted of "mutiny" in California last year, the Association declares that the charge is not supported by the evidence.

Submitted to Admiral T. L. Gatch, Judge Advocate General of the U. S. Navy, the brief asserts that the trial did not establish the guilt of the accused to the crime of mutiny, that mass trials are unfair and generally condemned by legal authorities, that the trial court took eighty minutes, including the lunch hour, to study the record and arrive at a decision, even though this record filled 1,435 single-spaced typewritten pages on legal-size paper, and that the verdict should be set aside as there could not be any reason for a mass trial "other than a deliberate attempt to discredit Negro seamen."

When the trial started September 14, 1944, the Navy Department released publicity pointing out that this is the first mutiny trial of this war and the first large mutiny trial in the history of the Navy. And this publicity carried with it the pictures of the men in order to show that they were Negroes.

Mass trials are roundly condemned by most legal authorities, and this is especially true in this case. Examples, included among the fifty men, all tried for the same crime, was one man, Berlin Kelly, who was on sick call during the time; during the alleged disobedience of orders, another, Ollie Green, had his arm in a sling; still another, Julius Dixson, a 104-pound boy, was instructed by Navy doctors to be used as mess cook only and not for the purposes of loading ammunition. Yet all of the men were tried together in the mass trial.

After analyzing all the evidence produced on behalf of the prosecution, the brief concluded that there was no legal evidence whatsoever to sustain the charge of mutiny and that the evidence in regard to the refusal to obey an order was in dispute and in grave doubt. The brief pointed out many instances of obvious prejudicial conduct based on race or color by Lieutenant Commander Coakley, the prosecutor, in his efforts to emphasize the question of race during the trial.

In requesting that the conviction of these men be set aside, the brief pointed out that there could not possibly be any reason for such a mass trial for the charge of mutiny other than a deliberate attempt to discredit Negro seamen.

WHITES GET NEGRO HOUSING UNIT IN TEXAS: Despite the protests of the Washington bureau and the personal appearances of Judge William H. Hastie and Leslie S. Perry before John B. Blandford, Jr., NHA administrator, the two-hundred-unit war housing project at New Boston, Texas, originally built for Negro war workers, will be turned over to white occupants.

Construction of the Negro unit, which includes a $60,000 FWA school, was begun upon the recommendation of Army officers operating war plants in the area. But between the time of completion and acceptance of applications in late January, white pressure groups, including the mayor and Congressman Wright Patman (D-Texas), were successful in getting NHA approval in favor of white workers. As an excuse for the change, NHA and local groups are contending that many more whites have come into the area since the fall of 1944. This view, however, overlooked earlier NHA experience in that area. In 1943, a housing project was set up for whites in Hooks, a nearby town. This project had 800 units, but after five months it was only twenty per cent filled and since Negroes were not permitted to move into the vacant houses, 400 units had to be moved to another state. Six families have been moved into the project by Joseph P. Tufts, regional NHA head.

SEABEE HUNGER STRIKE INVESTIGATED: Thorough investigation of the two-day hunger strike at Port Hueneme, California, in March, of the 1,000 Negro Seabee members of the 34th Construction Battalion, who protested discrimination in the awarding of naval promotions, reveals a story of violent racial antipathies, thwarted ambitions, and broken promises.

According to the report made by Norman O. Houston of the Los Angeles branch, who interviewed twenty-seven members from the personnel of the 34th and 80th Construction Battalions at Camp Rousseau, a great gap exists between Negro and white personnel; and a still greater gap between the Negro personnel and the officers.

While overseas the men had been promised advanced rating upon qualification; later the promise was changed and they were told that they would get promotions upon their return to the states. Although they have been back in the country since last October, the commanding officer has made no effort to give the advanced ratings. Men of ability and leadership in the Negro personnel of the unit have been passed over for white petty officers recently brought into the battalions.

SOLDIER CONTRIBUTORS AND MEMBERS—*Between May and September of* 1944 *men in the* 629*th Ord. Amm. Co. contributed a to*[illegible] $4
Cpl. R. W. Blacke. Men in this outfit hail from Oklahoma, Arkansas, New Yo[illegible]enn

Negro and white men are put into separate mess lines and the Negroes have to take care of most of the camp duties while the whites have few if any camp responsibilities.

The men likewise accuse Battalion Commander McBean, and his executive officer, Lt. Commander C. V. White, of violent racial antipathies expressed in their attitude that a Negro has no rights that a white man is bound to respect. While overseas, Commander McBean even refused to allow his men to accept invitations from white units to compete in athletic contests.

Commander McBean even took it upon himself to go into the town of Oxnard and ask white business men not to serve his Negro personnel. At one time he maintained separate toilets for whites and Negroes. And in order to prove the utter incompetence of Negroes for leadership, he picks the wrong men as fuglemen and does nothing to develop Negro leadership for higher ratings.

Citing this hunger strike and complaints from overseas and mainland bases, the NAACP in a letter to Secretary of the Navy, James V. Forrestal, has urged speedy revision of the Navy Department's policy governing the promotion of its Negro personnel. Principle cause of dissatisfaction among Negro enlisted men as well as the Negro public in general has been the reluctance of the Navy to "recognize training and merit and to reward it as it does white personnel." The Navy excuse is that the Negro must work his way up slowly, despite the fact that in some of the units there are college graduates, men with advanced degrees from some of the best universities, and men who have held responsible positions of leadership in their respective communities. Thousands of white men have come very recently into the Navy from all walks of civilian life and the Navy quickly discovered ability among them and gave them an opportunity to advance themselves.

DR. DUBOIS OBSERVER AT SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE: On March 12 the NAACP board of directors named Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, director of special research and long a student of colonies, to be an observer for the Association at the United Nations conference opening April 25 in San Francisco, California.

The Association also adopted a resolution on colonial issues and policy which it transmitted March 15 to Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius for consideration at the San Francisco conference. Written by Dr. DuBois, the resolution calls for "a declaration of racial equality of the great groups of mankind in international law," and provision against the economic and governmental exploitation of colonies.

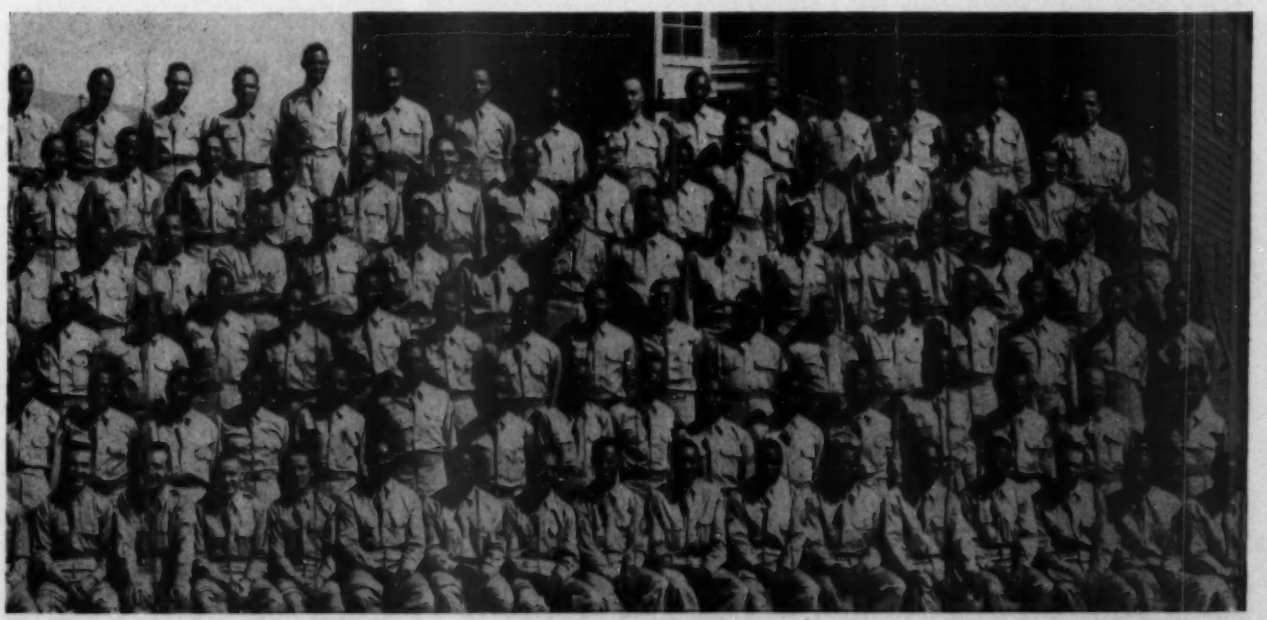
In another inquiry addressed to the Secretary of State, the Association asked "if on the agenda of the approaching conference in San Francisco, the question of colonies and their future status and treatment will be considered?" In addition, the letter, signed by Dr. DuBois, inquired if "any commissions or spokesmen from the colonial peoples will be present to speak directly or indirectly for their aspirations and progress." Finally it inquired "if any provision will be made for the representation of American Negroes at the San Francisco meeting in order that they may advocate and advise measures for their own social progress and also be given opportunity to speak for other peoples of African descent whom they in a very real sense represent?"

CONFERENCE ON COLONIAL PROBLEMS: On April 6 the NAACP held a conference on colonial problems in the auditorium of the 135th Street branch of the New York Public library. Those in attendance were mainly native inhabitants of the various colonies who resided there recently or are in close contact with developments. Others were students of colonial conditions. Dr. DuBois was chairman of the conference.

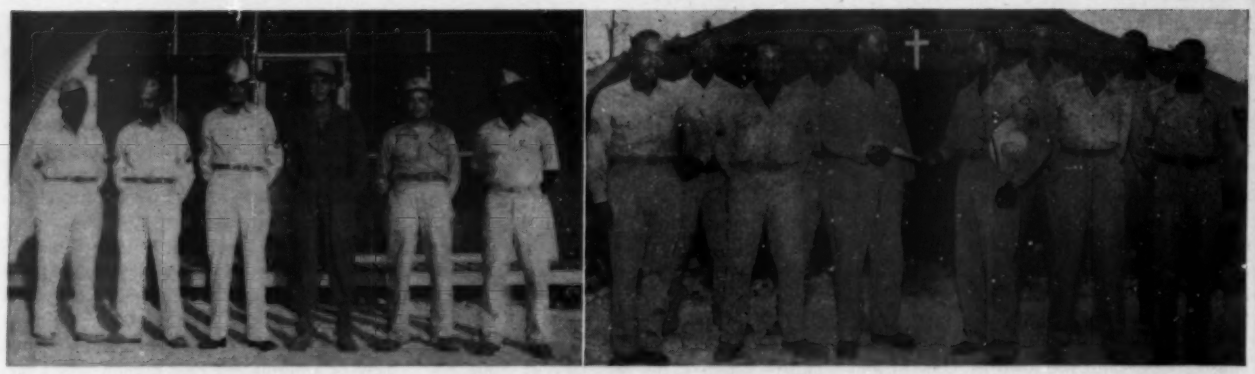
NAACP ASKS FOR FEPC "WITH TEETH": In hearings in Washington March 14 the NAACP turned thumbs down on the Taft bill (S. 459) and urged passage without amendments of (S. 101) for the establishment of a permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission. Acting secretary Roy Wilkins told a subcommittee of the Senate Education and Labor committee that "speedy adoption of S. 101 would give real meaning to democracy for thirteen million Negroes. Its enactment into law by the 79th Congress would testify more eloquently than words that the Negro, the Jew, the Catholic, the new citizen, the Spanish-American, man or woman, who served his country on the battlefronts has not fought in vain."

TEACHER SALARY CASE IN SOUTH CAROLINA: The case of Albert N. Thompson was filed in the U. S. District court in Columbia, S. C., February 7 by NAACP attorneys against the school board of Columbia in an effort to test the statute passed by the state legislature in 1944 seeking to prevent suits in federal courts for equalization of teachers salaries. Special counsel, Thurgood Marshall, and Shadrack Morgan of Orangeburg, S. C., are handling the case.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE CANCELLED: In accordance with the request of War Mobilization Director, James F. Byrnes, for cancellation of all unessential travel and conferences



of $465 in memberships and gifts to the NAACP. In September of 1944 they sent in $162 through Wm. A. King; in May, $303 through of Pennsylvania, Florida, Texas, Georgia, Virginia, and North and South Carolina.



SOLDIER SOLICTORS IN NAACP DRIVE—*Solicitors in a drive conducted through Captain James E. Coby, chaplain of the 1887th Eng. Avn. Bn. stationed somewhere in the Pacific. From left to right, Staff Sergeants Albert Blanch, William H. Lyle, and Hartshorn Murphy; 1st Lt. Charles W. Wilson, S/Sgt. Emery M. Hayes, and Lt. Charles V. Bentley. In the next picture, reading from left to right, are Staff Sergeants William H. Russell, Harvey J. Knight, Mathew Batie, and T/5 Moses Smith. The fifth man, Capt. James E. Coby, chaplain and formerly of the Bishop college faculty, Marshall, Texas, is shown receiving the check for $2,063.82 from T/Sgt. Altha L. Brandon. The other four men are S/Sgt. Reuben Johnson, T/5 Joseph O. Golden, chaplain's assistant, Sgt. Amos R. Johnson, Jr., and S/Sgt. John H. Hairston.*

numbering more than fifty persons, the NAACP board of directors voted to call off the annual conference scheduled to be held in Cincinnati in June, 1945.

BRANCHES PREPARE FOR 600,000 NEW MEMBERS: According to Donald Jones, assistant field secretary, just returned from a six-weeks visit to branches, mainly in the midwest, great preparation is in progress for the nationwide campaign which opens April 1. Mr. Jones conferred with branch officers and executive committees in more than thirty branches throughout Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

NAACP MOURNS DEATH OF MOTHER DAMMANN: Official condolence on the death of Rev. Mother Dammann was sent by the Association in February. Rev. Mother Grace Cowardin Dammann, president of Manhattanville, College of the Sacred Heart, who died February 13, was noted for her educational leadership and active interest in the establishment of better race relations. Always just, sympathetic, and understanding in her treatment of minorities, she is best known in New York for her sponsorship of the Manhattanville Resolutions adopted by the Catholic Action Forum in May, 1933, pledging aid to the welfare of Negroes and just attitudes in their treatment. Mother Dammann followed this action by admission of the first Negro student to Manhattanville in 1938.

VIRGINIA SUPREME COURT WILL TEST CONSTITUTIONALITY OF "JIM CROW" LAW: On March 5, the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia granted *writs of certiorari* in five identical cases which challenge the constitutionality of the "jim crow" laws of the state requiring the segregation of passengers on vehicles operating in the state carrying passengers who are traveling in interstate commerce. The validity of the statutes is challenged upon the grounds that they constitute a burden and interference with interstate commerce in violation of Act I, Sec. 8, U. S. Constitution.

The question was raised by four Howard university co-eds, (Angela Jones, Marion Musgrave, Ruth Powell and Erma McLemore), all of whom were arrested in Fairfax county, Virginia, last May 14 for refusing to remove themselves to the rear of a bus traveling from Virginia to Washington, D. C., and Irene Morgan, who was arrested last July 16 in Middlesex county, Virginia, for the same reason while enroute from Virginia to Baltimore, Maryland. In each case the defendants were convicted before the trial justice, appealed to the Circuit Courts of the respective counties, and again were convicted solely on the basis of the Virginia statute requiring segregation, which makes no distinction between interstate and intrastate passengers.

Appeals were proposed under the auspices of the District of Columbia branch and the Virginia State Conference of the NAACP, asking the Supreme Court of Appeals to grant *certiorari*, which was granted without oral argument.

The Commonwealth's attorney for neither county offered any opposition to the petitions The cases are consolidated for the hearing, which will probably occur in May, 1945.

Branch News

GEORGIA: The Atlanta branch was host to a regional leadership-training conference held in the Butler Street YMCA, March 10-11. Speakers present from the New York office were Miss Ella Baker, director of branches; Thurgood Marshall, special NAACP counsel; Miss Lucille Black, membership secretary; and assistant field secretaries Donald Jones and Mrs. Irvena Ming.

Discussion leaders for morning and afternoon sessions of the conference included Mrs. Grace Hamilton, executive secretary, Atlanta Urban League; Emory Jackson, Birmingham, Alabama; John Hope II, regional office of FEPC; and Mrs. Anna D. Hall, information specialist, regional OPA.

The Sunday mass meeting held at 5:30 P.M. in Bethel church was presided over by Bishop William Fountain. The speakers were Dr. Ralph Mark Gilbert of Savannah, president of Georgia State Conference; Ella Baker, Thurgood Marshall, Lucille Black, Irvena Ming, and Donald Jones. Music for the occasion was provided by the Morris Brown college quartette and the Booker T. Washington high school band and glee club. The mass meeting, at which $500 was reported as a result of campaign activities in churches, marked the opening of the Atlanta branch membership campaign.

IOWA: On February 12 the Des Moines branch held its annual style show and charity ball at the Billiken hall. The annual event was sponsored by the local branch to aid in its fight for the "five freedoms." The committee in charge of the show was composed of Mrs. James B. Morris, Mrs. William Neal, Mrs. Edward Cardwell, Mrs. J. W. Mitchell, chairman, and F. O. Morrow.

KANSAS: The following members of the Leavenworth branch attended the regional leadership training conference held in Kansas City, Mo.: Rev. E. W. Newton, president; Mrs. Albertine McClay, second vice-president; Delilah Hamilton, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Mabel Sparks, recording secretary; Mrs. Sadye J. Anderson, publicity chairman; Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Baskins; and George Walker, treasurer.

MARYLAND: Following an intensive cam-

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paign on the part of the Baltimore branch, in cooperation with seventeen state branches and fifty other interested organizations, the Maryland Senate, in February, by a vote of 20 to 9 passed and sent to the House of Delegates the bill to repeal Maryland's forty-year-old jim-crow law. There was no debate on the measure, which was backed by the state administration.

In a recent letter to Mrs. Virginia Kiah, membership secretary of the Baltimore branch and director of the associated groups for the repeal of the jim crow law, Governor Herbert R. O'Conor made the following statement:

Most important to my mind is the consideration of simple justice and humanity as applied to all groups of citizenry. In a democracy such as ours, citizenship brings certain privileges, but at the same time entails certain responsibilities. To impose full responsibility upon any group of our population without at the same time granting a full measure of citizenship rights, definitely falls short of justice to the restricted group.

Some of the individuals and organizations supporting the repeal of jim-crow law were Most Reverend Bishop Noble C. Curley of the Maryland and Washington Diocese, Right Reverend Bishop Noble C. Powell, Episcopal Diocese of Maryland, the Ministerial Alliance, the State Industrial Union Council, National Maritime Union, the Ship Yard Workers, YWCA, Public Affairs Committee, Baltimore Metropolitan Council of Negro Women, the Governor's Commission on Problems Affecting the Colored Population, Interracial Fellowship, representatives from the Baptist denomination, the Maryland Women's Voter's League, and the Union for Democratic Action.

NEW YORK: At the annual meeting of the New York State Conference held in the City of Rochester in May, 1944, the body voted to establish an Inter-cultural Committee with the hope of improving racial relations in the state. Dr. Leon Scott of New Rochelle, vice-president of the state conference was elected chairman. The growing spirit of anti-semitism caused the state group to draw up a set of resolutions which was presented by the state president, James Egert Allen, to the annual meeting of the Association at the Chicago Emergency Conference in June, 1944. In substance the national body adopted the resolutions and called upon branches throughout the country to institute a program designed to counteract the baneful effects of anti-semitic acts.

At the quarterly meeting of the state conference held at Mamaroneck, New York, November, 1944, the theme centered around the topic: "Towards World Brotherhood." Special emphasis was given to a careful study of anti-semitic feeling among Negroes. Branches throughout the state have launched programs to combat this attitude. During January and February, the state president, James Egert Allen, visited and addressed branch meetings in Portchester, Mt. Vernon, Albany, Hillburn and Brooklyn. In March, he visited and spoke in Ansonia, Conn., and

BRANCH WORKER

Mrs. Valdenia Brown-Gruner is chairman of the legal redress and legislation committee of the Tri-City, Ill., branch. She is at present a candidate on the Democratic ticket for alderman from the second ward in Rock Island, Ill.

Jersey City, N. J. On the 18th, he will be at the meeting of the White Plains branch. Mr. Allen is also identified with the movement begun in New York to aid the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. He has been active with the Academic Council of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.

Splendid support has been given to the state program by a distinguished list of sponsors including Judge Jonah J. Goldstein of the Grand Street Boys' Association, Max Zaritsky of the Hatters' Union, Arthur Loeb of the Council for Community Action, Carl R. Johnson of Missouri, Congressman Arthur G. Klein, Miss Rosalie Manning, ardent social and civic worker, Hon. W. J. Schieffelin, philanthropist, Rabbi J. X. Cohen of the American Jewish Congress, Councilman Benjamin Davis, Henry F. Silver, president of the New York East and West Association, Dr. Abraham Ehrenfeld, principal of J.H.S. 120, Man.; Dorothy Norman, noted columnist, Miss Melva Price, Assemblyman W. T. Andrews, Dr. Ruth Foster, Mrs. Ida C. Fish, Prof. John Bridge, and James Waterman Wise.

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PENNSYLVANIA: Thirty babies have already been entered in the baby contest of the Philadelphia branch which is scheduled to close April 6 with a children's fashion show. Chairman of the contest, M. N. Patterson, has announced that at least six prizes will be awarded in addition to free NAACP cradle-roll memberships for all babies for whom at least ten dollars worth of votes are sold.

Four of the ten persons selected to the Philadelphia *Afro-American* honor roll for 1944 are members of the board of directors of the Philadelphia branch. Selected on the basis of their outstanding and unselfish work to better the community, these board members are Edna W. Griffin, Rev. Thomas Logan, Harold L. Pilgrim, and William C. Jason, Jr.

On February 17 the branch issued a formal statement on the type of fair employment practice legislation which it believes must be enacted in Pennsylvania if job discrimination based on race, religion, or nationality is to be eliminated in the state. The branch went on record as favoring only legislation which will be effective in eliminating discrimination in employment and not just the adding of more pages to the statute books.

The Philadelphia branch is one of the eight agencies of the Philadelphia Fellowship Commission to be housed in the new Fellowship Center and Library to be established in the center of the city during the spring.

The Fellowship Commission will be the first community-wide effort in the country to set up a center fully equipped and qualified to deal with the problems of intolerance and prejudice and to work toward the goal of equal opportunity and equal rights for all Philadelphia citizens.

Each of the constituent agencies—Fellowship House, International Institute, NAACP, National Conference of Christians and Jews, Race Relations Department of the Philadelphia Federation of Churches, Philadelphia Jewish Community Relations Council, Philadelphia Metropolitan Council for Equal Job Opportunities, and the Committee on Race Relations of the Society of Friends—will retain its own identity, maintain separate offices and continue autonomous. But being housed together in the Fellowship Commission Center and Library, they will be in a better position to work together toward their common goal—destruction of prejudice and inauguration of real brotherhood.

RHODE ISLAND: The Newport YMCA after exercising a policy of discrimination for more than twenty years has agreed to permit men and boys of color to hold full membership in their branch. The policy of not admitting Negroes was inaugurated after an incident involving a colored and white boy. The local NAACP branch, feeling that their young men should have access to the facilities of the "Y," made representations to the proper authorities. Later at a conference at which time the legal representative of the New England Regional Conference was present, the secretary read a letter condemning the matter of discrimination and announcing that it had been decided to admit Negroes on a full membership basis.

Attorney Ray W. Guild represented the Regional Conference and Mr. Martin Canavan, President of the Newport Branch, represented the association.

TENNESSEE: The Chattanooga branch has just concluded another very successful membership campaign under the inspiring leadership of Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, national field secretary. Adult membership in the branch is now 2,596; youth membership, 1,482; total membership, 4,078.

W. J. Davenport, principal of the Howard High school, was chairman of the membership drive, conducted as a contest between two men and two women, each couple heading teams. Winning men's team was headed by Earl Brown; winning women's team, by Mrs. W. O. Woods. On the closing night of the contest a mass meeting was held and the two winning contestants were crowned king and queen of the campaign. Runners-up Miss Genevieve Taliaferro and Joseph C. Burrell served as attendants. Pictures were also made of the Pancas with the Royal Family as a background.

Although the campaign goal of 4,000 members was reached, president P. A. Stephens and staff workers are now bent on reaching 5,000.

WEST VIRGINIA: On February 11 the monthly meeting of the Charleston branch was addressed by Governor Clarence W. Meadows at the Garnet High school auditorium. A large and enthusiastic audience greeted the Governor. It was an interracial program and among the numbers were a dramatic reading by Miss Patricia Hoffman White, a violin duet by Miss Dora Mazzella and Tommy Theofamous, "America," the "Lord's Prayer," and "Listen to The Lambs" rendered by the Garnet High School Band and Glee Club.

The Governor was introduced by Mr. E. A. Bolling, superintendent of the West Virginia Deaf and Blind school at Institute. The program was under the management of Mrs. J. H. Woods, who presents an annual interracial program.

Governor Meadows was enthusiastically received and he spoke in part as follows:

"We can look at things from a selfish viewpoint, from a narrow viewpoint, from a purely personal viewpoint, but I find myself in the official position I now am as having to put aside as best as I humanly can those things of personal or selfish nature and look at all problems of all people from a broad standpoint and try to help all the people solve their problems purely from unselfish motives in every respect. I did not realize that it would be necessary for me to brush aside all thought of what I might like to do personally or how I might view things personally and look at things from an entirely different light. One should humble oneself and try to act and think and plan for the good of the public and that means all the people."

Youth Council News

NAACP YOUTH WEEK: Fourth annual observance of NAACP Youth Week will be held April 8-14. The theme for the week, "Unity for Peace," will be worked out

Sea legs and guts... to avoid ship delays!

HERE'S a chance for any Negro with Sea Experience to save a lot of American lives. A ship delay—because a man is needed—can cause bloodshed abroad and lengthen the war.

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SOME NEW NAACP BOARD MEMBERS—*Five of the seven new directors of the NAACP Board of Directors elected at the annual meeting January 2, 1945. Reading from left to right they are Russel W. Davenport, formerly of the newspaper PM; Elmer A. Carter, member of the New York State Appeal Board; Justice Jane Bolin, Court of Domestic Relations, New York City; John A. Singleton, Jamaica, L. I.; and Dr. James J. McClendon, president of the Detroit, Mich., branch.*

through a series of programs designed to show the importance of achieving a state of unity at home as well as abroad. On Sunday, April 8, the program begins with church and chapel services on the subject "True Christianity Is Unity." Programs for the remainder of the week are Monday, Willkie memorial tag day, subject "Peace and One World"; Tuesday, community education, subject "Changing Ideas in a Changing World"; Wednesday, NAACP youth day in the schools, subject "Education for Understanding"; Friday, mass meeting, subject "Back 'Em Up—For a Just Peace at Home and Abroad"; Saturday, an evening of fun with the theme, "Let's Have Fun Together."

WILLKIE BUILDING FUND: Youth councils and college chapters, as well as the branches, have been asked to contribute to the Wendell Willkie Memorial Building Fund. The Youth Secretary urges all youth groups to participate in this project to the fullest extent possible.

IKE SMALLS AWARD: This is a reminder that a loving cup will be presented to the youth council, as well as to a college chapter, that makes the best report of all-round achievements at the end of the year. All reports for the year must be accompanied by five letters of corroboration from five community leaders other than NAACP officials and must be in the national office by July 15, 1945. The judges will be members of the National Youth Work Committee.

ACTIVITIES OF YOUTH SECRETARY: Mrs. Ruby Hurley, youth secretary, recently returned to her office from a trip which included visits to Cleveland, Ohio; Chicago, Ill.; Langston University, Guthrie, Tulsa, Muskogee, and Taft, Oklahoma; Kansas City, Mo.; and Kansas City, Kansas.

Mrs. Hurley delivered the keynote address to the Oklahoma State Conference of Youth Councils and counseled with delegates and advisors. New groups were organized in Guthrie following a mass meeting and in Tulsa following speeches to two assemblies at the Booker T. Washington High School.

The Muskogee youth council presented Mrs. Hurley at its installation of officers at the USO Club; and at Taft, Okla., she had the opportunity of speaking to an unusual group of young people at the school for deaf, dumb, and blind orphans.

CAMDEN, N. J.: Over two hundred youths and many adults attended the first forum of the youth council held Sunday, January 28, at the Wesley AME Zion church. Rev. William J. Harvey, III, pastor of the Pinn Memorial Baptist church, Philadelphia, guest speaker, spoke from the subject "Combatting Juvenile Delinquency." According to the speaker, poor housing and inadequate recreation facilities are the main causes of juvenile delinquency.

George Lawrence, council president, welcomed the youths and adults to this the first of a series of forums to be held by the council.

Plans for NAACP Youth Week have already been accepted by the general assembly of the council.

Officers of the Camden council are George Lawrence, president; Miss Phontella Butcher, vice-president; Miss Esther Hicks, secretary; and Miss Marguerite Lewis, treasurer. Miss Lillian A. Goings is coordinator of the Camden county youth councils.

WEST PHILADELPHIA, PA.: The West Philadelphia council presented Mrs. Carolyn D. Moore at its forum meeting on February 11. On February 22 "Youth and Democracy" was the theme of an interracial youth program sponsored by the B'nai B'rith youth organization in cooperation with the Philadelphia council and other local youth groups. The meeting was held at the Gimbel store auditorium. Rev. Thomas Logan is coordinator of youth councils in Philadelphia.

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DOWNINGTON, PA.: John H. Morrow, instructor in English and sociology at the Bordentown Manual Training School, N. J., was guest speaker at a recent council meeting. James Wise, council president, was master of ceremonies.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA: Mayo Perkins, Jr., 11-year-old member of the Cedar Rapids junior youth council, is the youngest, as well as the first contributor of the local branch to the Wendell Willkie Memorial Building Fund. He contributed one dollar and received a "Founder's Certificate." Mrs. Viola Gibson is senior advisor to the council.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.: As its initial project for the fall, the council sponsored showing of the photographic exhibit, "The Negro in American Life." The exhibit, which was compiled by the Council Against Intolerance in America, New York City, was displayed throughout the Bay area at community and recreational centers. Opening with a tea at the Booker T. Community Service Center in September, the exhibit has been seen by over five hundred people. It was also shown at the San Francisco State College, the Marin County Housing project, and the Palo Alto Junior Museum. The council has now purchased the exhibit and plants to continue loaning it, for a set rental fee, to interested groups and organizations with the hope that it will serve to educate the public on Negro contributions to America.

As a service to the senior branch, the youth council has undertaken the editing of an NAACP monthly bulletin, *The Counsellor*. Main function of the journal is to keep the large senior branch membership scattered throughout the San Francisco area informed of council activities and pertinent local and national NAACP news.

HADDONFIELD, N. J.: Learning how to live is the greatest problem facing youth, Miss Lillian A. Goings, Camden teacher and coordinator of Camden county NAACP youth

councils, declared at Mount Pisgah A.M.E. church at the meeting closing the youth council membership drive. Miss Goings said: "Knowledge in every country is the surest basis of public happiness. Besides your vocation, you should have an avocation or hobby. All authorities agree that it is not so much how a nation works as how it plays that determines its future. This can apply to each individual as well."

George Lawrence, president of the Camden youth council, was master of ceremonies. The welcome address was given by Mrs. Marvelle Dansbury, vice president of the Camden branch. Miss Ethel Kirby and Miss Geneva Cephas received first and second awards, respectively, for bringing in members. Melvin Miller was named temporary chairman and Marty Hamilton, temporary secretary.

Bars Economic Jim Crow

(*Continued from page 99*)

as such, is subject to the healing influence of education in the broadest sense of the word. Examination of the state educational programs revealed that New York schools have left instruction in the wide field of tolerance virtually untouched. The Commissioner of Education, testifying before the commission admitted that the State Board of Regents had never accepted prejudice as a special matter for instruction. The bill, therefore, expressly authorizes the state agency to study the problems of discrimination "in all fields of human relationships," to marshal local resources for cooperation and conciliation, to distribute information that will promote better human attitudes, to make recommendations to and to obtain cooperation from all "agencies and officers of the state or local subdivisions of government," and to commend to the appropriate state agency programs for formal and informal education. Within the boundaries of the statute, opportunity to assist in spreading education for tolerance is offered those who most fear the evils of increased race riots and encouragement to subversive elements.

Pattern for Federal Legislation

The Ives-Quinn bill was passed in the hope that it would lessen postwar social and economic tension. This pioneer legislation into a difficult field is in keeping with the policy of New York state in its championship of forward-looking legislation. Its ability to challenge and overcome the obstacles of opposition will materially aid such states as Massachusetts, Illinois, Connecticut, Ohio, Michigan, New Jersey, California, Pennsylvania, Washington, Colorado, and Kansas, whose legislatures are now considering similar anti-discrimination measures.

Currently, supporters of a federal bi-partisan permanent FEPC bill are preparing for a showdown fight on this legislation in both houses of Congress. Like the New York, the federal bill contains powerful safeguards against discrimination in employment. It has received the endorsement of liberal legislators of both parties as well as vocal approval from President Roosevelt. The measure makes discrimination in employment on grounds of race, color, creed, national origin or ancestry unlawful. It applies to the Federal Government; to firms working on government contracts; to firms in industry affecting interstate or foreign commerce; and to unions in industries which come within the scope of these areas of jurisdiction. It establishes a commission to implement the act and authorizes it, after proper hearings and arbitration attempts have failed, to resort to court processes for enforcement.

Management is free to set its own hiring practices so long as it refrains from arbitrary discrimination because of race, color, creed, or national origin. Organized labor is permitted to manage its internal affairs as it deems fit provided no one is denied advantage of union membership or opportunities for collective bargaining because of the accident of birth or faith.

On February 16, a coalition of Republican and Democrat members of the House Labor committee voted to report the legislation, H.R. 2232, favorably. In addition, they decided to reintroduce it as a committee bill, giving it their entire support. Hearings on S. 101, the Senate's companion proposal, were recently conducted by a friendly sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Education.

Hurdles have already been placed in the path of this federal Fair Employment Practices Bill. The House Labor committee has charged the Rules committee with filibustering to delay the measure's appearance on the floor and a discharge petition may be introduced to bring the issue up for immediate consideration.

Senator Robert A. Taft (R., Ohio), by introducing into the Senate his version of anti-discrimination legislation, has succeeded in retarding action on S. 101. Taft's bill, S. 459, came as a complete surprise. It repudiates his former stand supporting enforcement powers for the proposed commission, makes discrimination no violation of law, excludes Americans of foreign ancestry, requires no anti-discrimination for government contracts, and provides no protection from reprisals against complainants. His measure proposes a commission whose sole function is to study and investigate economic discrimination.

Senator Taft, as chairman of the Republican Steering committee of the Senate, exercises great influence over the Republican members of that body. He has been accused of playing ball with the notorious Southern bloc who will endorse any measure that omits enforcement powers. In the interest of effective bi-partisan action, Senator Taft's influence must be repudiated before he persuades enough wavering Republicans to his point of view.

Task of the Future

To insure economic security federal legislation must be passed which provides all citizens with guarantees to protect them in their civil right to employment without discrimination. It is not expected, however, that such a measure can supplant education against prejudice. It remains for the states, therefore, to devise measures to extend the scope of federal statutes, and to supplement all guarantees with legislation designed to command public support.

Passage of New York's Ives-Quinn bill indicates what action must be taken at both state and federal levels. Here is a measure conceived by the people, supported by the people, and passed by the pressure of popular demand. Here is an act establishing the use of statute as practical machinery for education. Here is a law which has wisely considered the counsels of opposing factions and has, in consequence, erected safeguards protecting the rights and privileges of all persons for preservation of that strength which comes only when men of all colors and creeds live together in mutual respect and trust.

YOUNGEST CHATTANOOGA MEMBER

Little Miss Madeline Enid McIntosh, 8-months-old daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Edell McIntosh, Jr., of Chattanooga, Tenn., who enrolled in the NAACP during the recent drive.

National Negro Health Week

The thirty-first annual observance of National Negro Health Week was held April 1-8. Special objective of the week was "A Healthy Family in a Healthy Home."

Book Reviews

"AMERICAN HUNGER"

***Black Boy*. A Record of Childhood and Youth. By Richard Wright. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1945. 228pp. $2.50.**

This book is one of the frankest autobiographies ever written by an American. I can think of no other American life story in which the author lays bare his soul and mind with such fierce directness. He tells unpalatable truths about himself, his family, his race, and the white South. I was about to say his friends, but friends, it seems, he never had. He does not play up nor glorify Negro virtues, and he is thoroughly unabashed in recounting our vices and shortcomings. Or specifically, the integrity and the failings of those he knew. These individuals, however, are seldom from the upper group.

"I knew of no Negroes who read the books I liked and I wondered," he mused, "if any Negroes ever thought of them. I knew that there were Negro doctors, lawyers, newspapermen, but I never saw any of them. . . . Well-to-do Negroes lived in a world that was almost as alien to me as the world inhabited by whites."

But to argue, as some have done, that the Negroes sketched by Mr. Wright are not typical of even the illiterate and ignorant southern peon is mere speciousness and a dodging of the issue posed by the sort of segregated living described. Even if we grant that his Negroes are not typical, we must admit that their sullen rebelliousness and bitterness as articulated in Mr. Wright is. Negro professional and business men in the South are happily, or luckily, insulated by their very economic status from the raw winds of white hatred that buffet the masses.

The life of this black boy in the Deep South was an almost unbelievable round of hunger, poverty, brutality, and mistreatment. He suffered "dread, fear, terror, and loneliness." At the age of six he was a drunkard caging drinks in a saloon and spouting obscenities of whose real meaning he had no inkling. At home, such as it was, his mother seems to have taken an almost sadistic delight in beating him upon the slightest provocation. Once she beat him out of his senses and he had to be put to bed. And his relatives seemed to have agreed with his mother that liberal use of the ferule and the backhand slap was the only way to beat sense and order into a sensitively intelligent and growing boy. Under the circumstances it is perhaps natural that he should have learned early to defend himself with knife and razor blades. To avoid her cuffs he once held his aunt off with a knife, and on another occasion he fended off his uncle with a razor blade.

As for the whites, his own people had taught him to fear and hate them as his natural enemies. "A dread of white people now [after the family's forced flight following an 'uncle's' murder of a white woman] came to live permanently in my feelings and imagination. . . . Nothing challenged the totality of my personality so much as this pressure of hate and threat that stemmed from the invisible whites." Whites killed his Uncle Hoskins because they coveted his liquor business.

"There was no funeral. There was no music. There was no period of mourning. There were no flowers. There were only silence, quiet weeping, whispers, and fear. . . . Uncle Hoskins had simply been plucked from our midst and we, figuratively, had fallen on our faces to avoid looking into that white-hot face of terror that we knew loomed somewhere above us. This was as close as white terror had ever come to me and my mind reeled."

In his dealings and contacts with whites he found them almost invariably mean and contemptible. And he records only two or three exceptions to the pattern. "The white South said it knew 'niggers,' and I was what the white South called a 'nigger.' Well, the white South had never known me—never known what I thought, what I felt. The white South said that I had a 'place' in life.

The author of NATIVE SON writes the passionate story of his own youth

"It is an unforgettable book, and one which leaves you at the end questioning and wondering, as good books do. . . . *Black Boy* may be one of the great American autobiographies. This, too, is America: both the mud and scum in which Richard Wright grew up, and the something that sang within him, that ever since has been singing with an ever clearer, painfully sweeter voice."—Lewis Gannett, *N. Y. Herald Tribune.*

"Possibly the most sensational confession of an American boyhood ever put on paper."—Harry Hansen, *N. Y. World-Telegram.*

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RICHARD WRIGHT'S

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Well, I had never felt my 'place'; or, rather, my deepest instincts had always made me reject the 'place' to which the white South had assigned me."

But his life was not all bleakness, bitterness, and torment. Even his Seventh-Day Adventist relatives with their narrow and often mean orthodoxy could not prevent him from reveling in the magic possibilities of folk superstitions, the cool sensuality of the dew on his cheeks, "the tantalizing melancholy in the tingling scent of burning hickory wood," the blue-pink crawfishes, "the aching glory in masses of clouds burning gold and purple from an invisible sun," the serials of Zane Grey, and the books he borrowed from the public library.

"In me," he writes, "was shaping a yearning for a kind of consciousness, a mode of being that the way of life about me had said could not be. . . ." Introduction to this world came through the works of H. L. Mencken. After he had happened upon a denunciation of Mencken, he figured that anyone the white South denounced must be all right. So with the library card loaned by a white man (Negroes were not allowed to borrow books from the Memphis public library) he borrowed and began to devour the books of Mencken. A new and magic world now opened before his eyes. "I had once tried to write, had once reveled in feeling, had let my crude imagination roam, but the impulse to dream had slowly been beaten out of me by experiences. Now it surged up again and I hungered for books, new ways of looking and seeing. It was not a matter of believing or disbelieving what I read, but of feeling something new, of being affected by something that made the look of the world different."

Soon after this discovery of the great world of books, we find our black boy born of the Mississippi plantation, now nineteen, packing up his bags for new worlds and horizons in the North. The rest of the story is well-known.

JAMES W. IVY

ON MISCEGENATION

***Sex and Race*, Vol. III. By J. A. Rogers. New York: J. A. Rogers, 37 Morningside Ave., New York 26, 1944. Illustrated. XVI+ 359 pp. $3.90 postpaid.**

This volume is a contribution to the literature of a great controversy—the miscegenation of whites and blacks. It concludes the author's trilogy on the mixing of whites and blacks in Europe and the two Americas and seeks to explain the why of black-white miscegenation described in the first two volumes. Volume one, which opened the series, traced Negro-Caucasian mixing in all ages and lands, but primarily in Europe; while the second revealed the vast infiltration of "Negro blood" in the white groups in the Americas.

Volume three opens with author remarks on his first two volumes and "the why and wherefore of volume three," but before he attacks the question of miscegenation he summarizes the views, pro and con, on mixed marriages as seen by ancient and contemporary law, white scientists, politicians, the clergy and the laity, and then by the Negroes themselves.

Early law upheld endogamy and prohibited the marriage of the ruling classes with groups they considered inferior, regardless of race. It was purely a question of social and economic status. Some of the northern American colonies, for example, had a virtual ban against marriage with Irish, Quakers, and Jews.

Legal prohibition of marriage between whites and blacks started in the new world, and the United States is today the only country in the new world "which has carried its law against the marriage of white and black from its colonial period into its national one." Only four countries in the world have such laws at this moment and they are Nazi Germany, Australia, South Africa, and the United States.

Probably the most absurd set of anti-miscegenation laws are those of the twenty-nine and one-half states which prohibit the intermarriage of "whites" and "blacks." This comicality is the result of legislative inconsistency in the definition of *Negro*. We could hardly expect better of the Solons of the Bible belt when the anthropologists themselves fall into *bêtise* the moment they try to distinguish between *Negro* and *Negroid*. Rogers himself very effectively disposes of so-called scientific definitions of Negro through a series of pictures titled "Who is a Negro?" Kamehameha II of Hawaii, shown on page 7, who is classified by the anthropologists as Polynesian, is actually more Negroid in appearance than Rev. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., classified by the scientists as *Negro*. Mrs. Ida B. Wells Barnett, shown on page 11, is much more caucasian in appearance than the black fuzzy-haired Filippino, Australian, and Ethiopian types shown on the same page. Yet the former is supposed to be *black* and the latter *non-black*. Negro and non-Negro. Peyton M. DeWitt, page 17, who in appearance is as white as Lothrop Stoddard is called "Negro," while a Watusti shown above him with black skin and fuzzy hair is not a "Negro."

"For freakishness, Colorado takes the cake. While mixed marriages are legal in the southern part of the state, they are punishable with two years' imprisonment in the northern part. The southern part of the state was settled by Spain and was permitted by the state constitution to keep its marriage laws. The northern part was settled by the Anglo-Saxons." Another striking paradox is that the "constitution of no less than six of these states rules that a Negro is one thing while the state law declares him to be something else."

Those who have expressed themselves on mixed marriages reflect popular prejudice much more frequently than the judicious findings of science.

For explanation of the continuing miscegenation of whites and blacks despite legal and popular opposition, our author has recourse to the so-called four laws of race-mixing of the late Lester F. Ward, famous American sociologist. These laws are: "(1) The women of any race will freely accept the men of a race they regard as higher than their own; (2) the women of any race will vehemently reject the men of a race they regard as lower than their own; (3) the men of any race will greatly prefer the women of a race which they regard as higher than their own; and (4) the men of any race, in default of women of a higher race, will be content with women of a lower race."

Rogers devotes a chapter each to an analysis and criticism of these so-called laws. Simmered down this sociological fustian simply means that every man, woman, and child, regardless of race or color, seeks what he regards as the highest good. His criteria of the highest good are set in the last analysis by his social group and the larger society. When we consider masses of people in their choice of a mate, we find that their desires and ideals are determined more by conventional pecuniary and social values than by personal excellence and valuable services. In a world dominated by whites and their conventional standards, it is natural that many Negroes would desire white or near-white mates. If economic and social dominance of the two races were reversed and the Negroes formed the majority and the whites the despised minority, we would witness a transvaluation of values in regard to skin color and mating ideals. This happened in the Iberian peninsula under the domination of the Moors and Arabs where the *moura encantada* became the sought for ideal in matihg. The same thing often happened in colonial Brazil, Cuba, and Haiti when mulattoes and Negroes could often offer more by way of wealth and social prestige than the poorer whites. There are, of course, other factors in mating and Rogers discusses them in explaining the preference of many Negroes to mate with whites and whites with Negroes.

Chapters are devoted to which is the more beautiful, a black or white skin, color attraction and homosexuality, the sexual competence of white and black, the cosmic purpose and function of sex, etc.

The book has an appendix: scattered notes on volumes one and two, notes on Beethoven, a sketch of Mammy Pleasant, source of the curse of Ham legend, notes on the illstrations; a bibliography, author and painters index to volumes one, two, and three, index to proper names in the three volumes, and a subject index to the volumes.

This study is packed with a vast wealth of odd and pertinent information gleaned from a vast knowledge of the subject.

JAMES W. IVY

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